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A picture of soldiers mugging
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Jimmy Fallon leaves no doubt that
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Casino manager Blyth to cooperate in probe, pay \$15K. PAGE 7

Buckingham found guilty, no prison term sentence



By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo yesterday found former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham guilty of all public corruption charges except one and sentenced him to 3.5 years in prison, all suspended.

"I believe your testimony is disingenuous," Govendo told the 65-year-old Buckingham in handing down the verdict.

In imposing a no-prison-term sentence, Govendo said he believes that jail is not appropriate considering that, among other

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Former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham, right, and his counsel, Richard Pierce, enter the Judicial Building in Supe for the sentencing hearing yesterday afternoon. The historic bench trial ended with the conviction of Buckingham on corruption charges.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

AS CNMI WATCHES TRIAL, CONVICTION OF FORMER AG

'No one is above the law but...'

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Within hours of Edward Taylor Buckingham III's conviction and sentencing related to charges of misconduct and corruption, private citizens and elected officials said yesterday this only goes to show that "no one is above the law" and that the former "silent majority" will no longer tolerate abuse of power and corruption in government. Later in the day, however, some were taken aback by the "no jail time" sentence and \$14,000 fine imposed on the CNMI's former highest law enforcement officer.

"Given the magnitude of the offenses and him being attorney general when those acts were committed, one would expect there would be at least jail time," Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* during a House session break yesterday.

While the conviction tells the public that "no one is above the law," he said it also "seems like it's okay to commit those wrongdoing in the CNMI because you won't be imprisoned anyway."

Tebuteb, however, said he respects the judicial process.

As a member of the Legislature that

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Today marks 1 year since Fitial resigned



By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Today marks the first year since former governor Benigno R. Fitial resigned, yet historian Don Farrell believes that Fitial's

"rise and fall" will have "a lasting effect on CNMI politics and government" for generations to come.

Farrell said he did not expect Fitial to step down on Feb. 20, 2013, in the face of impeachment. Fitial resigned just days before the start of his impeachment trial at the Senate on charges of corruption, felony, and neglect of duty.

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» **'Fitial's rise and fall casts lasting effect on CNMI politics, govt'**



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Local

FITIAL

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"From what I had seen of him during his political career, I expected him to fight it out. I was impressed when he graciously handed his letter of resignation to his longtime friend and colleague Eloy Inos, then quietly walked away," Farrell told *Saipan Tribune*.

Fitial's resignation exactly a year ago today paved the way for then lieutenant governor Inos to become the new governor in a leadership change like no other in the history of the CNMI or any other U.S. territory.

Inos, also a former Finance secretary, is currently in Washington, D.C. for a series of

meetings and won't be back until Feb. 28.

Farrell said the event of a year ago "will be remembered long into the future by both sitting as well as aspiring politicians."

"Here was a charismatic, indigenous Carolinian who was born immediately after World War II, graduated from Mt. Carmel, earned a degree in Business Management from UOG [University of Guam], then returned to Saipan to serve his people," Farrell said, as he narrated Fitial's rise to power.

Fitial was elected to the 1st CNMI Constitution Convention, became chief administrative officer of the 1st NMI Legislature and was then elected to the CNMI House of Representatives in the 2nd Legislature, becoming its speaker during the

3rd, 12th and 14th NMI Legislatures, Farrell said.

The former governor also founded the Covenant Party in 2001, was elected governor of the CNMI under his own banner in 2005, then masterminded his re-election in 2009, the historian added.

"This is a remarkable political record that brought pride to the Carolinian community of Saipan. This is why the rise and fall of Benigno Fitial will have a lasting effect on CNMI politics and government," Farrell said.

In 2012, a minority group in the House of Representatives led by now Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) introduced a historic impeachment resolution that was easily thumbed down by Fitial's allies in the House leadership

back then.

Members of the public, which private citizen Glen Hunter described yesterday as the once "silent majority," made their voices heard through pro-Fitial impeachment rallies and through the ballot.

Voters in the 2012 elections almost wiped out all incumbents and would-be politicians aligned with Fitial, handing the House leadership to pro-impeachment lawmakers. Deleon Guerrero and others introduced another impeachment resolution that this time around succeeded in impeaching Fitial and moving the process to the Senate in February 2013.

Farrell said the impeachment was a people's movement that garnered the support of legislative leaders "who had the courage to stand up for what is right."

"Despite all the good things that Governor Fitial may have done during his rise to power, it was not enough to absolve him of the perception of wrongdoing that pervaded his authoritarian style of governing," he said.

Farrell likened Fitial's resignation to that of former U.S. president Richard Nixon, among other things.

"His resignation, just like the resignation of former U.S. President Richard Nixon and the conviction of Guam governor Ricardo J. Bordallo, brought disgrace on his people and the Commonwealth," he said.

Fitial's impeachment, resignation, and replacement by his former lieutenant governor are covered in the last chapter of Farrell's new NMI history book.

"To not report it would be an error of omission," the historian and longtime Tinian resident said.

Criminal charges, however, were filed against Fitial for mat-

ters related to the impeachment charges.

Former representative and former KSPN2 reporter Tina Sablan said that Fitial, like other former public officials implicated in conspiracies with former attorney general Edward Taylor Buckingham III who was convicted and sentenced yesterday, has yet to be brought to justice. Buckingham was found guilty of seven of eight charges also related to the charges against Fitial, on the eve of the anniversary of Fitial's resignation.

Sablan said Fitial remains at large and must be brought back to the CNMI to face charges.

Fitial is in the Philippines, his wife's home country.

Lessons learned

Farrell said some might say that the best lesson learned from Fitial's resignation is the old adage that "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Others, he said, will say simply that "No man is above the law."

"Personally, I hope it means that all government and political leaders will remember that it means 'The people are watching,'" Farrell said.

As to the Inos administration since Feb. 20, 2013, Farrell said "Governor Inos has done a commendable job of 'taking the bull by the horns,' to use another old saying."

"He stepped into the Retirement Fund debate and came out with a resolution, perhaps not what everyone wanted but at least a salvation for those who feared the worst," he said.

Farrell added that it appears the emergency declaration for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., initially set in 2008, may finally be lifted now that there will be a full quorum for a func-

tional board.

But Inos, according to Farrell, still faces the difficult questions regarding a long-term solution to CNMI energy problems and adequate funding for the hospital.

"Nevertheless, Governor Inos appears to be returning power to the people. Of course, the real judge of his performance will be 'The people' when they vote this November," Farrell added.

Inos announced that he is running for governor in November, along with Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) under the Republican Party, the same party that Fitial helped found and led before forming the Covenant Party and then leaving it only to return to the GOP.

Inos' Republican Party, however, still has many of the elected officials, other government officials and private citizens that used to not only align themselves with Fitial but also defended the former governor as the impeachment process against him was raging on.

But, as Hunter said yesterday, the CNMI community has discovered that they had nothing to fear as they "stood up against those who violated our public trust and with the help of others in positions of power, we were able to hold abusive officials accountable."

Hunter said for years, there was an overwhelming sense of fear in the community "that was felt by a large silent majority."

He said that fear was instilled through intimidation tactics by elected officials and those who held positions of authority.

"I encourage all members of the community to continue to be vigilant and report all acts of corruption that they see occur or know had occurred. Justice may take some time but it does eventually come," he added.

Healthy Outcomes for Maternal and Early-Childhood (H.O.M.E.) Visiting Program



What is the H.O.M.E. Visiting Program?

- The H.O.M.E. Visiting Program sets out to improve the health and developmental outcomes for mothers, children, and families through home visiting services.

What is the purpose for this program?

- The H.O.M.E. Visiting Program sets out to strengthen the early childhood system in the community and to support families and communities in the development of children who are healthy and ready to learn at school entry. The program strengthens and enhances evidence based curriculum activities, expand and improve coordination, and assure the provision of comprehensive services for families who reside in at-risk communities.

What are the program objectives?

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- Produce and deliver quality service to families in at-risk communities

What Services are provided?

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*At risk communities refer to pre selected villages that include Kagman, San Antonio, Koblerville, Dan Dan and Garapan



This has been funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation (CHCC) Division of Public Health H.O.M.E. Visiting Program, for more information please contact 236-8724/40 or simply email us at hvpcnmi@gmail.com.

LAW

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helped bring to light many of the issues related to the charges against Buckingham as well as former governor Benigno R. Fitial, Tebuteb said lawmakers need to "re-examine the ethics law" and related laws to "ensure tougher penalties for government officials" found guilty of corruption, among other things.

Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan) said the court has spoken, just as the people have spoken on the issue of corruption.

"It's a lesson for all government officials that no one is above the law, regardless of who you are and what you are. We live in a society that is governed by the rule of law," she said.

Glen Hunter, a private citizen who has been advocating for an accountable and corruption-free government, said the verdict "should send a message to those

in our government and those in positions of authority that they are not above the law and that the people are not afraid."

On a personal level, Hunter is "relieved to see closure in this particular issue" but said there are "other connected issues that are still outstanding and I hope that they too are eventually finalized."

Buckingham is the first former attorney general in CNMI history to stand trial on criminal charges.

His conviction and sentencing happened on the eve of the one-year anniversary of Fitial's resignation on Feb. 20, 2013, days before the start of the former governor's impeachment trial at the Senate for corruption, neglect of duty, and felony. The charges leveled against Buckingham were related to the articles of impeachment against Fitial.

Some lawmakers that supported Fitial's impeachment said yesterday that if Bucking-

ham was found guilty of most charges, "how much more Fitial, who was the one who ordered Buckingham and others to do things and charged with criminal acts?"

'More trials'

Despite their disappointment with the lack of jail time for Buckingham, citizens and government officials were still elated to see that "justice is served."

Tina Sablan, a former KSPN2 reporter who caught on camera Buckingham's "escort" saga from the Aquarius Hotel to the Saipan International Airport in 2012, said yesterday that "like many citizens of the CNMI, I do feel a sense of relief that Mr. Buckingham has finally had his day in court, and that justice has been served."

"As we all know, however, this story does not end with the former attorney general's conviction and sentencing," she said.

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White says Swift Air's 3 execs 'not fulfilling their obligations'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Attorney Michael A. White has asked the federal court for permission to withdraw as counsel for the three executives of Swift Air LLC that Saipan Air Inc. is suing, saying they have failed to pay him for his legal services.

In a motion for leave to withdraw filed on Tuesday, White disclosed that his clients, Donald A. Stukes, Jeffrey Conry, and Boris Van Lier, have "failed substantially" to fulfill their obligation to him for his legal services.

White said he sent an email on Jan. 25, 2014, to the Tuggle Duggins firm in North Carolina, which is principal counsel for Stukes, Conry, and Van Lier. In that email, White said he gave the defendants notice that, if their obligation to him is not fulfilled within the next two weeks, he would ask to withdraw as their lawyer.

Dotts starts cross-examining Kim

Businesswoman Jung Ja Kim was grilled yesterday by the lawyer of the Quichocho couple and their company that she is suing for racketeering.

Michael Dotts cross-examined Kim after Guam lawyer David J. Lujan completed yesterday his cross-examination of Guam assistant attorney general Benjamin M. Abrams.

Abrams testified as an expert witness for Kim in the latter's racketeering lawsuit against attorney Ramon K. Quichocho, his wife Frances, the Quichocho law firm, and the couple's Karissa LLC company.

Dotts will continue questioning Kim when trial resumes today, Thursday, in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

At the hearing yesterday afternoon, Dotts showed, among other documents, Kim's loan application with the Bank of Saipan in February 2008 in which she indicated that her former husband was vice president of her company.

Dotts pointed out that Kim

"Notwithstanding this warning, the obligation of defendants to the undersigned remains unfulfilled," he said.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona recently denied a motion to stop Saipan Air Inc. from pursuing its \$50-million racketeering lawsuit against Stukes, Conry, and Van Lier.

The defendants asserted that Saipan Air Inc. is barred from continuing its lawsuit against them due to the Chapter 11 reorganization plan of Swift Air Inc.

Manglona, however, ruled that the language of the reorganization plan is far short of clear enough to alert Saipan Air that, by agreeing to the plan it was abandoning its lawsuit. The judge said the plan is ambiguous and cannot be the basis to bar Saipan Air's claims.

Stukes, Conry, and Van Lier were employees, officers, or advisers of Swift Air, an Arizona corporation.

stated in the loan application that her former husband is her spouse.

Kim replied that it was wrong, that's why she withdrew the loan application. She also stated it was Quichocho's fault because he was the one who prepared the document.

Kim said she got the divorce decree in June 2005.

Dotts showed a court document after 2005 in which Kim told a Superior Court judge she was married.

Kim said Quichocho prepared the document and that it was wrong because she did not remarry her former husband.

Kim agreed with Dotts that it was not true that she went to Quichocho in March 2007 to process some papers to protect her assets from her former husband because at that time they had reconciled.

Kim also stated that she paid \$25,000 cash in April 2008 as bail for the release of her former husband, who at that time was facing prosecution for alleged illegal gambling at a hotel. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

High surf, small craft advisories

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management warned yesterday of high surf that is projected to last until noon today, Thursday.

"A large north-northwest swell will cause hazardous surf on north and west facing reefs of the Marianas through Thursday morning. Hazardous surf should subside Thursday afternoon," states the high surf advisory.

A small craft advisory for hazardous seas is also in effect until noon today. Hazardous surf ranging from 8 to 10 feet will continue on north and west facing shores. Surf should

subside below hazardous levels Thursday afternoon as north swells diminishes.

Combined seas of 9 to 11 feet will make conditions hazardous to small craft through Thursday morning. Seas are expected to subside below hazardous levels by Thursday afternoon as the north swell diminishes.

Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels should avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution especially near reef lines and when entering or leaving harbors and inlets. *(PR)*

Conry was chief executive officer, Van Lier was director of operations, and Stukes was chief restructuring officer and also an employee of ASI Advisors LLC.

In April 2012, Saipan Air and Swift Air entered into an agreement for Swift Air to provide Saipan Air with aircraft, crew, maintenance, and insurance.

Over the next two months, Saipan Air paid a total of \$1.267 million to Swift Air and provided a \$524,000 letter of credit to secure delivery of the aircraft by July 1, 2012.

On June 21, 2012, Van Lier, acting on behalf of Swift Air, terminated the agreement in a letter to Saipan Air.

Less than a week later, on

June 27, Swift Air filed for bankruptcy in the District of Arizona under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

In response, Saipan Air took action on two fronts. In Arizona, it participated in the bankruptcy case. In the initial filings, Saipan Air was listed as Swift Air's second-largest unsecured creditor.

Swift Air's chief operating officer, Adam Ferguson, chaired the creditor's committee. On July 8, 2012 Ferguson swore out a declara-

tion in support of its \$1.276 million claim.

Ferguson alleged that a series of broken promises, misrepresentation, and outright lies by Conry, Van Lier, and other agents of Swift Air induced Saipan Air to enter into the agreement.

Around the same time, Saipan Air sued the three defendants in the U.S. District Court for the NMI for fraud, unjust enrichment, and violations of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organiza-

tion Act.

The complaint, filed on July 12, 2012, alleged that the defendants fraudulently induced Saipan Air to transfer money and other assets to Swift Air.

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MPLT chair: Progress in pursuing DPL remittances

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The newly elected chairman of the Marianas Public Land Trust, Martin B. Ada, recently informed the Legislature that the agency is seeing some progress in its dealing with the Department of Public Lands.

In fact, he said, the department has promised to remit the fiscal year 2012 land leases due the land trust by end of the year.

“The MPLT trustees are progressing in pursuing DPL to remit funds due to MPLT as mandated by the CNMI Constitution. In May 2013, DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio assured the trustees that for [fiscal year] 2012, DPL will remit to MPLT

at the end of the year,” said Ada in a letter Wednesday to Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan). It was learned that the lawmaker had inquired with MPLT about the remittance issue.

Besides this promised new remittance from DPL, Ada disclosed that DPL already remitted \$307,109 to MPLT last Dec. 31. It was not disclosed, however, which fiscal year this remittance covered.

Ada also bared that the board will wait for the result of DPL’s audit report for 2013 to determine the true financial condition of the public lands agency.

It was learned that a meeting between Gov. Eloy S. Inos and members of the MPLT board—Pedro Deleon Guer-

rero, Ada, and Melchor Mendiola—took place last month. The focus of discussion centered on DPL’s obligation to remit funds to MPLT.

“At this meeting, Gov. Inos asked MPLT to allow DPL to complete its [fiscal year] 2013 audit, which is expected to be completed in June 2014. All three of us agreed to grant the [g]overnor’s request,” according to Ada.

Ada, who was elected chairman only recently, had appointed vice chair Maria Frica Pangelinan to handle all matters relating to DPL.

“Vice chair Pangelinan will be meeting with DPL in hope of reaching an understanding and/or to avoid unnecessary legal

proceedings,” said Ada.

MPLT trustees earlier initially agreed to take legal action against DPL if it continues to withhold remittances to the land trust.

During MPLT’s last meeting, a document bearing the analysis of MPLT consultant Bruce MacMillan on the DPL audit reports for fiscal year 2011 and 2012 was shown to the trustees. Though its content was never discussed in the floor, a copy obtained by *Saipan Tribune* indicated the potential amount that should have been remitted to the trust. This document is expected to be discussed at the next board meeting.

In MacMillan’s report, he estimates a little over \$13 million that is constitutionally due MPLT as of fiscal year 2012. This amount represents many

years of distributions to MPLT that were withheld going back to the 1990s.

In a recent interview, Inos refused to comment on the “remittance issue” pending the completion of the 2013 DPL audit and its own data analysis.

“That amount [\$13 million] is based on MPLT’s analysis. But what’s the analysis from DPL?” Inos told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the pending audit will help determine the right amount due MPLT for public land leases and related revenues.

Based on MacMillan’s analysis, the amount due MPLT as of Sept. 30, 2012, is \$3.441 million plus the \$2 million reservation of “fund balance”—for a combined total of \$5.441 million.

In addition to this balance, MacMillan said there were monies that have been diverted

from the Marianas Public Land Authority and DPL that should have gone to MPLT—expenditures that do not qualify as “expenses of administration.”

He specifically cited \$1 million that DPL gave the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in fiscal year 2005 to buy fuel. In fiscal year 2010, DPL also paid the Department of Finance \$2.5 million per a state of emergency. In that same fiscal year, land compensation payments totaled \$2.2 million (\$262,944 and \$1.978 million). From June 2010 to September 2012, there was also a duplicate payment to the NMI Retirement Fund treated as a fully reserved receivable amounting to \$1.957 million.

MacMillan indicated that the total potentially due MPLT is \$7.699 million on these “expenses of administration.”

LAW

From Page 2

Sablan said there were other public officials who were also implicated in criminal conspiracies with Buckingham and who were also involved in various acts of misconduct and abuse of power.

“These individuals have yet to be brought to justice. There should be more trials to come, including that of former governor Benigno Fitial, who remains at large. Mr. Fitial must be brought back to the CNMI to face his charges,” Sablan added.

Sablan, now pursuing urban planning at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, hopes that the Buckingham case “serves to restore some of the public trust that was lost, strengthens our commitment to safeguarding freedom of the press and the independence of our watchdog

agencies, and reminds us all of how important it is to continue in our collective efforts to clean up our government and hold our public officials accountable when they abuse the power we give them.”

Sablan, a former member of the CNMI House of Representatives, added that she has “so much respect and gratitude for the many fine people who found the courage to do the right thing even when it was hard.”

She was referring to “the incredibly dedicated staff of the Office of the Public Auditor, the whistleblowers and media tipsters, the citizens who rallied in the streets, the lawmakers who stood with them, the government witnesses who told the truth at trial.”

“I think as a community, we have learned many valuable lessons these last few years about how dangerous it is to allow

ourselves to be ruled by complacency and fear. I hope that these are lessons we remember forever, and teach our children,” she added.

Hunter, meanwhile, added that the once “silent majority” in the CNMI should feel a sense of vindication.

He said they “pushed aside their fears and took a stand against a corrupt administration.”

“I believe the verdict is yet another step toward a better CNMI,” he added.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the verdict of guilty on seven counts “goes to show that no one, including the Commonwealth’s chief law enforcement official, is above the law.”

“I cannot say that I am pleased that our Commonwealth had to go through this trial. But we have. And we must remain vigi-

lant in the conduct of the public’s business and we can, today, say to ourselves that we will no longer tolerate the abuse of power by our public officials,” Sablan said when sought for comment.

‘Let justice take its course’

Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the former Special Committee on Impeachment, said the conviction is a result of “what was going on” in previous years, and “that something was wrong in the way government was being run back then.”

“At the end of the day, this is a judicial process. We just have to respect the outcome... At least the people have spoken, the Legislature has spoken, and now the courts are in agreement that what we saw going on in government back then was wrong, that government

officials, people in government should be [held] accountable for their action, that no one is above the law...” the former CNMI immigration director said.

When asked whether the Buckingham conviction would help strengthen the criminal case against Fitial himself who was the subject of impeachment resolutions, Sablan said the judicial process should be allowed to take its course.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), main author of the impeachment resolutions against Fitial, echoed Sablan’s statement to allow the judicial process “to take its course.”

The speaker said he won’t comment further on Fitial’s criminal case “because I do want him to have a fair trial.”

“Let the prosecution and the defense argue their points and then what happens as a result of

that, we’ll see,” Deleon Guerrero added.

In the halls of the CNMI Legislature and other government and private sector offices, the breaking news of the former attorney general’s fate instantly became a hot topic yesterday.

Not to be outdone, social media was also abuzz with the Buckingham verdict and sentence within minutes of the court decisions.

“Finally, he should have pleaded but no, he was so sure the climate is still the same... wrong!” one said on social media. Another one said, “Decision was spot on, but the conviction is not punitive at all.”

“Judge Govendo applied the law appropriately. He is just bound by CNMI law—it’s up to the Legislature to fix those discrepancies. More broadly, it’s really up to us voters,” another one wrote.

GUILTY

From Page 1

things, Buckingham is not a typical criminal that stole or embezzled a huge amount of money or committed sexual abuse or violent crimes.

Govendo found Buckingham guilty of use of public supplies, time and personnel for campaign activities; use of the name of a government department or agency to campaign and/or express support for a candidate running for public office; misconduct in public office (related to campaign matter); conspiracy to commit theft of services (related to escort issue); misconduct in public office (pertaining to escort issue); conspiracy to commit theft service (related to use government counsels to represent him); and misconduct in public office (use of government counsels in his criminal case).

Govendo acquitted Buckingham on a count of failure to produce documents or information (pertaining to the Office of the Public Auditor’s investigation into a sole-source contract project).

Govendo announced his

verdict yesterday at 10:15am. After hearing the verdict, attorney Richard Pierce, counsel for Buckingham, told the judge that they were ready for the sentencing. OPA legal counsel George Hasselback asked for more time so he could prepare his sentencing memorandum.

Govendo set the sentencing at 1:30pm yesterday.

At the sentencing hearing, Govendo also ordered the 65-year-old Buckingham to pay a \$14,000 fine and placed him on unsupervised probation for 3.5 years.

Govendo barred the former AG from employment with the CNMI government for 20 years.

The judge exonerated Buckingham’s \$50,000 that he posted for his temporary release. The \$14,000 will be deducted from the \$50,000 cash bail.

OPA counsel Hasselback recommended a sentence of one year in prison, without the possibility of parole, and the maximum \$14,000 fine.

Hasselback said that imposing a jail term would serve the two most important factors—punishment and deterrence. He said that Buckingham was the highest law enforcer in the CNMI and was sworn to uphold

the law, but that he perverted the office for his selfish interest.

“The eyes of the CNMI are on this case. The eyes of the people who do not want to participate in corrupt activities are fixed on this case,” the OPA counsel said.

Pierce recommended a sentence of unsupervised probation and \$10,000 fine. He pointed out that Buckingham is 65 and has poor health so he should be allowed to return to his wife and family in Colorado.

Pierce pointed out that the harm suffered in this case is not large and that this case is isolated.

Before the sentence was handed down, Buckingham read to the court a brief statement. He apologized for his conduct and thanked Govendo for conducting an expedited trial. He asked the judge to consider his many years of public service, his health condition, and family.

Govendo said that based on his experience with Buckingham, who appeared in his courtroom for traffic cases, he finds him exceptionally competent, honest, and was fair.

Govendo said the problems began for Buckingham on a few bad days—at the Aug. 28, 2010,

political gathering at former governor Benigno Fitial’s house and the Aug. 3 to 6, 2012, penal summons and escort issues.

Govendo said it’s guilt by association because Buckingham was counsel for Fitial, who was subsequently impeached.

The judge said Buckingham made an error and that he expressed remorse.

In rendering the verdict, Govendo said on the use of supplies charge, it is very obvious from the emails of Frieda Demapan, the executive secretary to the AG, or through communications, that Buckingham knew at least a month before the Aug. 28, 2010, gathering that the party was going to be a political one for then-delegate candidate and now Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

Govendo said that Buckingham should have issued communications directing or commanding the OAG staff not to appear at the party because it’s political.

“If you’ve done that, no OAG staff should have shown up and you’re not charged. But you didn’t!” the judge told Buckingham.

On theft of service for using

OAG lawyers to represent him in his criminal case, Govendo said the defendant used OAG lawyers to go to court for the initial hearing.

The judge said he realizes the difficult position Buckingham was in when he received at 4am on Aug. 4, 2012, a document ordering him to appear in court on Aug. 6 at 9am. Govendo said the document did not give Buckingham enough time, as normally it gives a person being served with penal summons at least two weeks to appear in court.

Govendo said Buckingham should have contacted Hasselback on Aug. 3, 2012, or a simple call to Hasselback to give him (Buckingham) some time to appear.

Instead, the judge said, Buckingham called the OAG, telling them to represent him.

On the conspiracy charge, Govendo said Buckingham called Fitial on Aug. 3, 2012, that he was worried that KSPN2 reporter Tina Sablan was staking him out and the penal summons.

Govendo said that looking at phone records, between 4:53pm of Aug. 3, 2012, and 5:21am of Aug. 4, 2012, there were 25

calls to and from Fitial.

The judge noted that the calls included Fitial making six calls to his then driver/escort Police Capt. Jermaine Nekaifes, three to Commonwealth Ports Authority police chief Jordan Kosam, six to then-Department of Public Safety Ambrosio Ogomoro, and seven to Buckingham.

Govendo said Ogomoro called Buckingham five times.

To prove conspiracy, Govendo said the totality should be taken into consideration.

Govendo said that Buckingham, instead of going by himself and his wife straight to the airport, got police officers and armed escorts.

“It is a conspiracy!” the judge said.

The bench trial, which began Feb. 10, was historic as Buckingham is the first former AG in the CNMI to stand trial in a criminal case.

OPA originally filed 12 criminal charges against Buckingham in connection with violation of election laws and illegal award of a sole-source contract, among others.

Govendo earlier dismissed four charges, including those pertaining to the contract issue.

Guerrero’s bid to delay serving his sentence is denied anew

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court has denied former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair Francisco Q. Guerrero’s motion to reconsider its denial of his request to put off serving his six-year prison sentence pending the resolution of his appeal. Guerrero was convicted of 11 charges relating to sexual abuse of a minor.

In an order on Tuesday, the high court justices once again found no clear error or manifest injustice that would require them to reconsider their earlier decision.

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro penned the decision. Associate Justice John A. Manglona and justice pro tem Timothy H. Bellas concurred with Castro.

A Superior Court jury had acquit-

ted the 63-year-old Guerrero of two counts of a sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, but Associate Judge David A. Wiseman found him guilty of 11 charges: three counts of assault and battery, five counts of disturbing the peace, two counts of indecent exposure in the second degree, and sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree.

Wiseman sentenced Guerrero to six years in prison without the possibility of parole.

Guerrero, through counsel Brien Sers Nicholas, filed an emergency motion with the Supreme Court, seeking a stay of his sentence pending appeal.

Before trial, Guerrero had asked for a discovery material from the prosecution, including an Attorney General Investigative Unit report made at or around the time of Guerrero’s arrest, which potentially contained statements

from the victim that Guerrero believed were material and exculpatory.

When the government did not provide the AGIU report, Guerrero filed a motion to compel, arguing the small amount of material the government produced in the course of the case could not have met the prosecution’s burden to turn over evidence.

Wiseman denied Guerrero’s motion to compel, and declined to review the disputed evidence in camera (private) because “the government had assured the court that all exculpatory material had been produced.”

Wiseman also allowed expert testimony from Division of Youth Services officer Julian Camacho regarding the delayed reporting and coping mechanisms of sexual abuse victims.

In coming to a finding of guilty, Wiseman relied “on the credibility of

the victim’s testimony.”

Guerrero then filed a motion for a stay of sentence, but Wiseman denied it last November.

In December, the High Court denied Guerrero’s motion to suspend the execution of the court’s sentencing order. The justices ruled that Guerrero has not met his burden to raise a substantial question of law or fact likely to result in reversal or a new trial.

The justices, however, remanded in part for further proceedings in Superior Court to determine if an Attorney General Investigation Unit report regarding defendant’s sexual abuse charges exists.

Guerrero then asked the High Court to reconsider its decision, arguing that the Commonwealth’s failure to turn over attorney notes from attorney-witness interviews violated the Brady rule.

Brady material refers to a piece of evi-

dence known to the prosecution that is important for establishing the innocence or reducing the punishment of a defendant.

In denying the motion to reconsider, the justices said that Guerrero overlooks Commonwealth Rule of Criminal Procedure 16, which governs the Commonwealth’s duty to disclose evidence.

The justices said the requested attorney notes fall within the exemption because the attorneys interviewed the victim as part of investigating and prosecuting the case.

Guerrero was ordered to start serving his sentence on Dec. 1, 2013, at the Department of Corrections.

According to the court’s commitment order, Guerrero began sexually molesting the now 17-year-old girl in 2010 when she was in the 9th grade and continued doing so up to May 2012 on five different occasions.

Transfer of GHLIP to govt entity set

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Group Health Life Insurance Program and the Home Mortgage and Credit Program would soon be off the Settlement Fund trustee’s hands as the programs will be transferred to the central government.

Settlement trustee Joyce H. Tang reported to the court that she aims to have the programs transferred to the government by the end of the second quarter of this fiscal year.

“The settlement trustee will work with the government to transfer these programs by the end of the second quarter,” Tang’s latest filing indicates.

Prior to the bankruptcy case filed by the NMI Retirement Fund, the administration disclosed that GHLIP and the Workers Compensation Commission would be removed from the Fund’s administration so that the pension agency could focus on operating the members’ defined benefit plan.

Government agencies that may handle these programs include the departments of Commerce, Finance, or Of-

fice of Management and Budget.

The Aetna Health Insurance Plan expired on Dec. 31, 2013. The plan was extended for an additional two months at an increased rate to allow the government to negotiate with the carrier. Under the 2013 government-sponsored health plan, premiums paid totaled \$18 million, half of which was paid by the government and half was paid by employees and retirees. Of the \$9 million paid by the government, approximately 78 percent (or \$7 million) was for retirees’ coverage and 22 percent (\$2 million) was for active employees.

The government recently finalized its negotiations with Aetna. Under the 2014 plan, two health plans are offered: the low option plan and high option plan. The main difference between the two are the premiums charged and whether provider coverage in U.S. is included in the plan. The low option does not include U.S. providers in its network and premiums are about 20 percent to 21 percent lesser than the high option.

In her report to the court, Tang said that retirees who are currently enrolled can choose between the two plans. Re-

tirees who opted out, however, cannot re-enroll as they are prohibited from doing so by CNMI law.

It was learned that the deductibles for the low option and high option plans were increased. Under the old plan, deductible amounts were \$300 for single, \$600 for couple, and \$900 for family category. The new plan’s deductibles are now \$500 for single, \$1,000 for a couple, and \$1,500 for a family.

“The increase of deductibles combined with other plan changes such as excluding U.S. in the network providers allows the government to offer a more affordable rate to attract active employees to stay in the plan,” Tang’s filing states.

Meantime, the government-sponsored life insurance program will be renewed this year.

“The rates increased by 11.1 percent across the board. The coverage limit for active employees is limited to 1.8 times the employee’s annual salary. The coverage limit for retirees is 1.8 times the reduced pension payments,” Tang said, adding that the maximum coverage for both active employees and retirees is \$90,000.

CUC: CNMI has excess power capacity at 73.7MW

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth continues to have a stable power supply and even has a significant excess power capacity, according to Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Alan Fletcher yesterday.

As of yesterday, the utilities agency has a total power generation of 73.7 megawatts, a little lower than last year’s average monthly generation of a little over 74 megawatts.

The decline, Fletcher said, is caused by some engines that are currently under maintenance. However, he assured that the current capacity is still more than what the three islands need.

“Capacity is greater than demand on all three islands. Total capacity is lower than certain points in 2013, as we have engines undergoing maintenance and repair on Saipan and Rota,” he said.

According to Fletcher, Saipan currently has over 150 percent excess capacity, while Rota and Tinian enjoy a

much higher percentage. Once maintenance is completed, he said, excess capacity will be even higher.

On Saipan, the available power is 48.9MW yet its current peak demand is only 26.6MW, Fletcher said.

On Rota, the peak demand is 1.2MW but it has 4.8MW in available power.

On Tinian, which is handled by independent power producer Tele-source, the available power is 20MW versus the current peak demand of 3.35MW.

Saipan Tribune learned that, unlike in the U.S. where the required reserve margin is at least 15 percent, other utilities like CUC has to maintain a reserve energy of 50 percent to 75 percent because it cannot purchase electricity from other utilities in times of emergencies.

CUC attributed the sufficient power production on the islands to the progress made in boosting the capacity of CUC’s Power Plant 1, which used to produce only 9MW in 2009.

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, March 6th, 2014 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan (Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of January 23rd, 2014 minutes
5. Public Comments

B. Public Hearings

1. **Conditional Use Application #2014-0271:** Ace Printing is proposing to operate a clothing print shop in Gualo Rai on lot #EA 145-1-1. This use is classified as Manufacturing and Processing and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located across from Highway Market on Middle Road and is zoned as Mixed Commercial.
2. **Conditional Use Application #2014-0592:** Songbird Aviation, LLC is proposing to operate light aircrafts known as “weight shift control light sport aircraft” or “trikes” in Marpi on a public land lot. This use is classified as Amusement, Outdoor and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located southeast of Banzai Cliff between the veterans cemetery and the former Cowntown, and is zoned as Rural.
3. **Conditional Use Application #2014-0624:** ASG Corporation is proposing to operate a warehouse and printing facility in Koblerville on lot #023-1-02. This use is classified as Manufacturing and Processing and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located on Chalan Mnsgr. Martinez south of St. Jude Church, and is zoned as Village Commercial.
4. **Conditional Use Application #2014-0627:** CELNAPS Enterprises is proposing to operate an office in China Town on lot #017 D 01. This use is classified as Office and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located on the corner of Matsue St. and Judge way, east of the basketball court, and is zoned as Village Residential.

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business.

1. Update on Nuisance Abatement & Blighted Property Maintenance Act of 2013, authored by Representative Larry I. Deleon Guerrero, 18th CNMI Legislature

E. New Business

1. Office operations report

E. Executive (Closed) Session.

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Ace Printing

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Ace Printing is proposing to operate a clothing print shop in Gualo Rai on lot #EA 145-1-1. This use is classified as Manufacturing and Processing and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located across from Highway Market on Middle Road and is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date:

March 6, 2014, Thursday

Time:

5:00 pm

Place:

Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, March 5th, 2014. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp , via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **February 20**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **February 20**.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE

You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **February 20**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



Life in Motion

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laulau – up to 6:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office - up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

High school students seek jobs at PSS Career Fair

High school students hopped from booth to booth in search of potential jobs at the Public School System's Career Fair yesterday afternoon at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. More than 25 companies participated in the fair.

Tyce Mister, teacher and coordinator for the Marianas High School's Cooperative Education and Training Program, said the goal yesterday was to build students' confidence in meeting a variety of businesses and learning about them.

"I am happy with the turnout," he added.

Mister said the students would be doing interviews with some of the companies and then soon after would be doing interviews with other companies outside the career fair.

The students would then be trained for about 10 hours a week. They receive school credits and internships with the company that chooses them.

"For my students, I recommended that they do three different interviews to see if they're offered a training position and

begin training for the rest of the semester," said Mister.

One of Mister's students at Marianas High School, Maria Fe Zinampan, 18, was nervous at first but started feeling

better as she went along with the program.

"I want to experience new jobs and I want to explore more of what I really want to do in the future," she said. Her goal is to have a job under finance and accounting.

So far, Zinampan had visited the booths of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., Pacific Islands Club, Joeten,

Triple J, and Brabu.

One of the more popular companies at the career fair was Power 99. Alexandra Servantes, a Power 99 employee, said they entertained about 20 students and a lot of them "are mostly interested in being radio DJs."

To become one, "you have to first do hands-on experience and get comfortable and it's a possibility they might hire you or be on-call."

One student even asked Servantes about checking out the studio while other students wanted to do sales.

PSS presenter Lucretia Borja said, "PSS has always been involved and is very supportive of the program since it provides opportunities for students to go over the interview process and training"

The PSS Career Fair was co-organized by Mister and Chris Tenorio. *(Jayson Camacho)*



Power99 employees Alexandra Servantes and DJ "Big Mama" smile for the *Saipan Tribune* during yesterday afternoon's Public School System Career Fair at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

COTA expands office hours to Saturdays

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority announced yesterday that their dispatch and scheduling hours have been expanded and now includes Saturdays.

The new hours expands on COTA's standard way of doing things by doing things better, faster, and smarter. This greatly enhances customer experience and saves time and money through a few key features:

ORIGINAL SERVICES	EXPANDED SERVICES
Reserve a ride from Mondays through Fridays	Reserve a ride from Mondays through Saturdays
Call-in hours: 8am to 4pm Mondays - Fridays	Call-in hours: 8am to 8pm (Mondays - Fridays) 9am to 4pm (Saturdays)
Closed on Sundays and holidays	Closed on Sundays and holidays

COTA's new service hours are now available to its riders. The elderly and persons with disability ride with a discounted fare. Visit www.COTA.gov.mp to download an eligibility application form. The general public may use the same service for a low price of \$5 per ride. We will pick you up and take you just about anywhere on Saipan. Current and new riders can call 670-664-2682 to make a reservation or to get more information about the Saipan Call-a-Ride program.

Benefits of public transportation

In our community, public transportation is making a real difference in the daily lives of individuals and households. For some, it provides a choice; for others it is a necessity. It connects people with health care, education, work, shopping, recreational activities, or with friends and family. Public transportation use lowers household expenses and frees up more income for other needs. Public transportation helps lead the CNMI toward its goals of protecting the environment, conserving energy, and providing for the health, safety, and security of its residents. *(COTA)*

Saint Michael's EMTs are drug-free

In keeping with its vision and mission of providing the safest and most reliable ambulance service in the CNMI, all members of the Saint Michael's crew underwent and completed their annual drug-screening test this past month and all test results came back negative for any drugs or illicit substances.

Saint Michael's commits itself to maintaining a drug-free workplace for its employees and providing quality care to our patients. To that end, Saint Michael's, as part of its companywide policy, conducts drug-

screening tests among all of its personnel annually. This is one method in assuring that Saint Michael's patients are receiving the safest ambulance services whenever patients call for its services. SMMR crew also just completed a course on Infection Control and Bloodborne Pathogens at the invitation of the staff at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Infection Control Department.

SMMR emergency vehicle operator and attendants are specially trained to handle emergency vehicles and treat patients

while on board any of our vehicles. Therefore, it is absolutely crucial that both employees are not under the influence because they literally have the patients' lives in their hands. This is true for any ambulance operator/attendant either private sector or government. Not only is our drug free policy good for business but also, it is simply our responsibility as a private ambulance company to provide the safest and most reliable ambulance transport for our community and the visitors that come to the CNMI. Despite the fact that drug testing is not required by local law, SMMR voluntarily mandates all employees to undergo drug screening regularly as part of company policy.

"We have always had a drug-screening policy in place since the company started back in 2009," said Francis Taimanao, operations chief and compliance officer for SMMR. Routine and random drug screening is also a requirement in our companywide compliance plan program as required by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare. All personnel are required to take this type of screening prior to and while employed at Saint Michael's.

To know more about Saint Michael's and its crew, visit www.saintmichaelscnmi.com. *(PR)*

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
ASG Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. ASG Corporation is proposing to operate a warehouse and printing facility in Koblerville on lot #023-I-02. This use is classified as Manufacturing and Processing and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located on Chalan Mnsgr. Martinez south of St. Jude Church, and is zoned as Village Commercial.

Date: March 6, 2014, Thursday
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, March 5th, 2014. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
CELNAPS Enterprises

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. CELNAPS Enterprises is proposing to operate an office in China Town on lot #017 D 01. This use is classified as Office and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located on the corner of Matsue St. and Judge way, east of the basketball court, and is zoned as Village Residential.

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Songbird Aviation, LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Songbird Aviation, LLC is proposing to operate light aircrafts known as "weight shift control light sport aircraft" or "trikes" in Marpi on a public land lot. This use is classified as Amusement, Outdoor and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located southeast of Banzai Cliff between the veterans cemetery and the former Cowntown, and is zoned as Rural.

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Casino manager Blyth to cooperate in probe, pay \$15K

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Under a deal with the U.S. government, Tinian Dynasty casino general manager Tim Blyth agreed to cooperate with the federal investigation and testify at any trials or hearings.

At the same time, Blyth will be made to pay at least \$15,000 to be applied toward any civil monetary penalty imposed by the U.S. government.

He will also be barred from working in a financial institution in the United States, to be

effective 30 days after the deferred prosecution agreement is approved.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona approved the agreement on Friday. As part of the deal, the judge will hold the case against Blyth in abeyance for up to 18 months.

If he meets all the conditions of the agreement, the U.S. government would drop all charges against him.

The information was filed in court on Feb. 7. Manglona unsealed the information

on Feb. 10.

The information charged Blyth with conspiracy to cause a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report, causing a financial institution to fail to file a suspicious activity report, and failure to maintain an effective anti-money laundering program; aiding and abetting.

The indictment, which was filed on May 9, 2013, charged Blyth, Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments, Ltd., which owns Tinian Dynasty; and VIP ser-

vices manager George Que with one count of conspiracy to cause a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report and nine counts of causing a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction

The defendants allegedly conspired to allow gamblers to conduct transactions involving more than \$10,000 without filing with the U.S. government the required paperwork, called Currency

Transaction Reports, from September 2009 to the present.

Federal law requires that a CTR be filed with the Internal

Revenue Service by financial institutions, including casinos, for any cash transaction over \$10,000.

6 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged six beaches on Saipan and advises the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are the Tanapag Meeting Hall, DPW

channel bridge, south Puerto Rico dump, Garapan Fishing Dock, Sugar Dock, and the San Antonio lift station.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Qual-

ity Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Survivors, caregivers support meeting today

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting today, Feb. 20, 2014, starting at 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. Guest speaker Kim Peterson will present on the benefits of yoga and holistic healing. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (PR)

Family Fun Night fundraiser at WSR

William S. Reyes Elementary School will be hosting a Family Fun Night Fundraiser at the school campus in Chalan Kanoa this Friday. Doors will be open from 4:30pm to 9pm and will feature entertainment, games, and food.

"It is for families to gather for a night of fun and to help fundraise for the school," said WSR principal Naomi Nishimura.

The fundraiser was made possible by William S. Reyes Elementary School's PTSA. (Jayson Camacho)

Child seat checkpoints on Friday

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting occupant protection/child passenger courtesy checkpoints on Friday, Feb. 21, 2014. The first setup will be on Beach Road, Susupe,

in front of Minatchom Atdao, on the southbound lane, from 1:30pm to 2:45pm. The second setup will be on Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau, adjacent to Dr. Benusto Kaipat's residence on the southbound lane., from 4pm to 5:15pm. For more information, contact Sgt. Anthony Macaranas at (670) 483-5818. (DPS)

Air Force training on Naval Base Guam

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct cargo aircraft delivery operations in the waters between Agat Bay and Orote Point on Naval Base Guam on Feb. 20, 21, 26, and 27 from 8:15am to 9am. This exercise is designed to enhance the training and readiness of military personnel. Coast Guard and Air Force personnel will be on shore and on boats to monitor operations. Boats, divers and base personnel are to remain clear of these areas during the dates and times indicated. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see and hear increased activity associated with the exercise. (PR)

UOG to celebrate Charter Day on March 11

The University of Guam celebrates its 46th Charter Day on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 on the UOG campus. Opening Ceremonies begin at 9am and activities run throughout the day until 5pm.

UOG Charter Day showcases a multitude of activities and events including campus tours, the Annual College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Research Confer-

ence, which features over 60 different presentations, the CHamoru Language Competition, agricultural displays, ROTC tactical demonstrations, Chemistry Titration High School Competition, Isla Center for the Arts exhibit, live music, food, games, and more.

This year, Charter Day also features the finals of the President's Cup Competition where students, alumni and UOG employees compete in nine different events including basketball, volleyball, badminton, ping pong, dodgeball, 5K run/walk, golf, and more.

For details and a list of events, visit www.uog.edu/charterday or visit the UOG Facebook page at www.facebook.com/universityofguam. (UOG)

Free business seminars

The CNMI Small Business Development Center presents a series of free business seminars.

■ **TINIAN:** Health Insurance for Small Business, Feb. 21, 2014, from 10am to 12pm, at the Tinian's Northern Marianas College Room-D.

■ **ROTA:** Health Insurance for Small Business, Feb. 27, 2014, from 10am to 12pm, at the Rota's Northern Marianas College Room A-2.

Online registration at pisbdn.ecenterdirect.com or call for pre-registration at (670) 664-3018 or www.pacificsbdc.com. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 6th month birthday to our *magas*, Izaiah Blaze! Days have gone by so fast and we can't imagine a day without you! May the Lord above bless you with many more years to come. We love you, son! Greetings come from Mommy and Daddy.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



ART PROJECT

Wrinn Alexander shows off the latte stone-shaped ukulele he made in art class. Wrinn is from Saipan and attends high school at Webb School of Knoxville. The ukulele is made completely of wood and has a nice sound, according to Roy Alexander, who contributed this photo. The headstock of the instrument also features the CNMI flag.



Kanoa Resort

Saipan

Our resort is looking for a dynamic candidate with a strong and all around experience in Sports and Recreation at a supervisory level. The Sports and Recreation Supervisor shall assist in leading, developing and implementing activities that appeal to our customers.

As a Sports and Recreations Supervisor, the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Complete needs assessments to determine how often activities will be offered, how seasons will affect these activities and what space is available for participants.
- Research possible activity ideas, trying or sampling new activities and evaluating them as needed. Group activities may include sporting activities such as beach volleyball or beginner swimming lessons, games such as trivia, events such as karaoke nights or wine tastings, or activities such as volleyball and dancing lessons.
- Create an activity schedule that reflects the Resort's needs. Activities must vary to ensure the schedule appeals to as many guests as possible.
- Conceptualize activities which include but not limited to: kids club, sports activities, guest incentives, special packages, cultural activities, fitness center, corporate events and tournaments.
- Supervise other recreational staff members including life guards, S&R staff and other employees.
- Train other employees as necessary, introducing them to procedures such as pool safety or new activities as needed.
- May need to help update websites, produce announcements/newsletters or make calendars to highlight specific events.
- Additionally, these directors may send out invitations, publish brochures and update signage.
- Maintain safe work environment. Maintain and develop the Resort's existing customer markets.

Qualifications:

- Minimum Education:
- At least 3 years experience in sports and recreation, at supervisory capacity.
- Knowledge of hotel operations; departmental planning; conceptualizing, development and coordination of projects; guest relations; sports ethics/rules; first aid/CPR and life-saving techniques; computer operation; marketing/promotions; people management.
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applicants must be submitted not later than February 15, 2014. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Youth Conservation Corps internships available

American Memorial Park will once again host the Youth Conservation Corps program this summer. Applications are currently being accepted now through April 4, 2014.

The Youth Conservation Corps

is a work-learn-earn program that develops an understanding and appreciation of the nation's environment and heritage. YCC participants will learn about American Memorial Park and the National Park Service mis-

sion while engaging in a wide variety of conservation activities and park operations. YCC participants will become ambassadors "to protect special places for all."

Four applicants will be selected to participate in the program

for up to eight weeks, beginning June 15 through Aug. 9, 2014. Participants are expected to work Monday through Friday, 40 hours per week, and will be paid at the federal minimum wage. Applicants must be at

least 15 years of age on June 15, 2014, but no older than 18 years of age on Aug. 9, 2014.

Application forms are available on the web at www.nps.gov/amme. Look for the YCC link on the main page. Appli-

cants must completely fill out and sign the application form. Applicants under 18 years of age must also have a parent or guardian's original signature on the application form. You will only be contacted if you, or your child, have been selected.

For specific questions or concerns, contact Ben Attao at ben_attao@nps.gov or (670) 234-7207, Ext. 2005. (NPS)

Artists invited to participate in Women's Exhibit

The Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture is once again preparing for its Annual Women's Exhibit, which recognizes the roles of women artists in the community.

The council is inviting all female registered and non-registered artists to join and participate on the annual Women's Exhibit, which will be at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan lobby for the whole month of March.



"I would like to encourage all registered and non-registered artists to take advantage of this opportunity to showcase and sell your art work," said Fe McMahon, the arts council's coordinator.

All artwork will be monitored by McMahon for the whole month of the exhibit. Artists are welcome to come and sell their artwork but they are not required to be present every day.

The Women's exhibit will run from March 4 up to March 28. It will be open from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday.

For more information on how you can join or become a registered artist, contact or visit McMahon at the Arts Council office on Capital Hill next to the Post Office or call her at 322-9983 or 483-1226. (PR)



AGULTO DONATION

Rep. Antonio R. Agulto (Ind-Saipan) donates sporting equipment to Kagman High School. The students, teachers, and administrators of Kagman High thank Agulto for supporting wellness activities and sports at the school.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

OVR to conduct outreach on Feb. 22



The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation will hold its exhibit on Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014, from 7:30am to 3pm, at the Kagman Community Center, in celebration of Parent Leadership Month, which is spearheaded by the Division of Youth Services.

At the same time, OVR will use this opportunity to reach

out to Kagman and neighboring residents with disabilities who are interested in applying for vocational rehabilitation services to prepare for work. Interested individuals should bring a copy of the following documents, if applicable: valid picture ID; health insurance card; two latest check stubs or tax return, if claiming dependent (for financial participation purposes); most recent medical, psychological, and/

or school records, etc.; SSI or SSDI verification; legal guardianship; and CW-1 visa valid not less than six months for foreign or non-immigrant worker.

An applicant is eligible for vocational rehabilitation services if the individual:

- Is an individual with a disability
- Has a physical or mental impairment that constitutes or results in a substantial impediment to employment; and can

benefit in terms of an employment outcome from vocational rehabilitation services;

c. Requires vocational rehabilitation services to prepare for, secure, or retain employment; and

d. Has legal status to allow employment in the CNMI or the United States.

It is the mission of OVR to increase employment and promote independence among eligible individuals with disabilities throughout the CNMI. OVR relies on its partners such as consumers with disabilities

and their families, the Public School System, institutions of higher learning, Labor Department and workforce system, and the business community to accomplish the goals and objectives of the agency as outlined in its approved state plan.

Companies that are looking to hire qualified people with disabilities to diversify their business or comply with federal or local employment laws as well as to obtain technical assistance on reasonable job accommodations are encouraged to call OVR at 322-6537/38. (OVR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

February 20, 2006

MPLA denies paying members for Rota, Tinian trips

The Marianas Public Lands Authority has denied paying its board members for their trips to Rota and Tinian last week. Board chair Ana Demapan-Castro, members Nick Nekai and Felix Sasamoto flew to Rota Sunday, Feb. 12, "to prepare for the next day's meeting" scheduled at 8am, said MPLA media officer Ed Arriola. The meeting, however, was cancelled as Castro "had to tend to an urgent family medical emergency," he said. "According to the Board Secretary, the members did not

receive their per diem checks as the meeting was never held," said Arriola.

Immigration agent nabs alleged overstaying cook

An Immigration agent arrested on Thursday an alleged overstaying alien worker who unlawfully worked as a cook. Immigration investigator John Peter said he arrested Sarah G. Gascon, 51, at Capital Bowling in Garapan after verifying she was working as a cook-helper for a company. Peter said Gascon, a Filipino, was issued a nonresident worker's entry permit that expired on April 2, 2003. Peter said that on Nov. 26, 2005 he received

tips that the respondent has been illegally working as a babysitter.

February 20, 2007

Size of govt on the decline

The size of the CNMI government has been reduced by over 500 personnel since 2005, according to data released by the administration. From 5,463 employees in fiscal year 2005, the government now employs only 4,890 personnel—a reduction of about 10.5 percent. This information, submitted by Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez to the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, was meant to illustrate the impact of declining revenues on government operations and the Commonwealth's citizens as a whole. Of the 4,890 currently employed by the government, 3,094 are working within the executive, legislative, and judi-

cial branches, as well as within the Commonwealth Development Authority and the Department of Public Lands.

Legitimacy of GOP leadership questioned

A group of local GOP members is now questioning the legitimacy of the board of directors that has denied them recognition. The elected officers of the NMI Republican Party's Precinct IV club have claimed the board of directors was elected in violation of the party's bylaws. Luis Q. Kapileo, who was voted chairman during the Precinct IV club's disputed election of Jan. 4, 2007, maintained the individuals currently leading the NMI Republican Party have a questionable status within the organization. He was referring to the officers elected during the party's membership meeting on Dec. 18, 2006. They are GOP president Thomas B.

Pangelinan, first vice president Bennet Seman, second vice president Roman Tudela; secretary Kimo Rosario; and treasurer Karl Reyes. The group has referred to itself as the "board of directors."

February 20, 2008

Labor clarifies transfer process

The Department of Labor has clarified how foreign workers can transfer jobs under the new system. Although consensual and expiration transfers have been eliminated, guest workers may still transfer from one employer to another, according to the department's progress report on the implementation of Public Law 15-108. Deputy Labor Secretary Cinta Kaipat, the former lawmaker who sponsored the labor law in the 15th Legislature, prepared the report. Under the new process, Kaipat

said, a worker seeking to transfer jobs registers with the Division of Employment Services and is given the so-called "employer intent form."

Fitial, Tenorio to face US Senate panel

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Resident Rep. Pete A. Tenorio will both testify at the Senate committee hearing on minimum wage next week. The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will conduct the hearing to receive testimony on the impact of increased minimum wages on the economies of American Samoa and the Northern Marianas. The hearing will be held on Thursday, Feb. 28, 2008, at 9:30am in Washington, D.C. (11:30pm on Saipan) Fitial and Tenorio will join their counterparts from American Samoa—Gov. Togiola Tulafono and Rep. Eni F.H. Faleomavaega—at the hearing.

USDA RD invests over \$350K in FSM in FY 2013

KOLONIA, Pohnpei—In fiscal year 2013, USDA Rural Development invested over \$350,000 in various projects across the Federated States of Micronesia. These funds were targeted toward home repair/rehabilitation and community facilities and equipment. Program delivery occurred in each of the FSM's four states of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap.

Rural Development's investment includes \$306,664 in low interest (1 percent) fixed-rate loans and grants that helped 31 very-low-income families complete much needed repairs to dilapidated homes, remove existing health and safety hazards, and make them accessible to occupants with physical disabilities. It also includes \$45,937 in assistance for community projects that increase public safety, enhance environmental quality, and safeguard public health.

"Families in small, rural communities deserve access to decent, livable housing, a safe and clean living environment, and basic health services. I am extremely pleased that through the efforts of our local Rural Development staff, we were able to improve the quality of life for many families in all four FSM states," said Chris Kanazawa, Rural Development State Director for Hawaii, Western Pacific, and American Samoa. "As a priority of President Obama and Secretary Vilsack, Rural Development strives to provide the needed assistance to raise the standard of living for lower income families. This will ultimately result in stronger communities across the FSM."

These investments were made available through Rural Development's Single Family Housing Renovation (504) Loan and Grant Programs and Community Facilities Programs.

"In FY 2014, Rural Development continues its mission in the FSM of improving the improving the standard of living for Micronesia's residents by elevating the quality of life for local homeowners and communities while creating economic opportunities for local businesses as a multiplier effect of our projects," remarked Gary Bloom, Area III (FSM) Director.

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, administers and manages housing, business and community infrastructure programs through a national network of state and local offices. Rural Development has an active portfolio of more than \$172 billion in loans and loan guarantees. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America. **(USDA)**

Palau hosts PATA Micronesia Chapter Tri-Annual Meeting

GUAM—More than 60 Pacific Asia Travel Association Micronesia Chapter members from across the Micronesia region met on the beautiful Island of Palau to hold its Tri-Annual chapter meeting on Feb. 10 – 12, 2014.

The Education, Marketing and Membership committees of the chapter were able to deliver and approve each of their 2014 Business Plans during the two days of meeting. In addition, PATA Micronesia Chapter chair Pilar Lagunaña delivered her 2013 Year End Chapter Review during the PATA General Membership in front of a packed room full of government and state officials, tourism industry partners and chapter members on Feb. 12.

Highlighting the general membership meeting also was the keynote speaker, FESTPAC 2016 chair Therese Cruz Arriola, who shared Guam's progress and welcomed suggestions and recommendations from Palau in hosting the next Festival of the Pacific Arts in Guam from May 22 to June 4, 2016.

The chapter also conducted, under its Education Committee—co-sponsored by the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network and the Palau Visitors Authority—a two-day training seminar for service industry workers who wanted to enhance their abilities to provide a memorable "fine dining" experience in their establish-

ments. The free seminar by PROA Restaurant owner Chris

Flores Bejado was well attended with over 27 attendees

each day.

Other highlights from the



PATA MICRONESIA CHAPTER

Standing left to right: Regina Nedlic, Guam Visitors Bureau Marketing Officer II; Bermane Aldis, Federated States of Micronesia Visitors Board member; Judy Torres, Marianas Visitors Authority deputy managing director and PATA Micronesia Chapter treasurer; Pilar Lagunaña, GVB marketing manager and PATA Micronesia Chapter chair; Monty McDowell, CEO Advance Management Corp. and PATA Micronesia Chapter education co-chair; Georgette Reyes-Wiltz, Pacific Small Business Development Center Network-Guam; Joe Suka, Chuuk Visitors Bureau director; Sam Scott, Sam's Tours and PATA Micronesia Chapter membership co-chair; Kadoi Ruluked, Palau Visitors Authority marketing manager; and Grant Ismael, Kosrae Visitors Bureau manager. Seated front from left: Lourdes Aguon-Schulte, Pacific Island Paradises Inc. and PATA Micronesia Chapter membership co-chair; and Emelyn Simon, Marshall Islands Visitors Authority sales and marketing representative.



PATA MICRONESIA CHAPTER

From left, Palau first lady Debbie Remengesau; Therese Cruz Arriola, FESTPAC 2016 chair and Guam Visitors Bureau board member; Palau President Tommy Remengesau Jr.; Pilar Lagunaña, Guam Visitors Bureau marketing manager and PATA Micronesia Chapter chair; Judy Torres, Marianas Visitors Authority deputy managing director; Regina Nedlic, Guam Visitors Bureau marketing officer II; and Kadoi Ruluked, Palau Visitors Authority marketing manager.

Coast Guard, Navy partner in Oceania Maritime Security Initiative

HONOLULU—The Coast Guard and Navy completed a joint mission in the Central and South Pacific under a new agreement between the services to enforce fisheries laws and enhance regional security Jan. 7 to Feb. 2.

The partnership supports the Oceania Maritime Security Initiative, a Secretary of Defense program, which leverages Department of Defense assets transiting the region to increase the Coast Guard's maritime domain awareness, ultimately supporting its maritime law enforcement operations in Oceania.

As part of Operation Persistent Presence and in conjunction with NOAA, a Coast Guard law enforcement team embarked the Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Kidd in San Diego to conduct law enforcement boardings while the vessel was in transit.

The Coast Guard-Navy team, including the two embarked MH-60R helicopters from Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 78, conducted 46 external visual inspections and 13 boardings with internal inspections of fishing vessels across two separate jurisdictional areas in the Marshall Islands and Nauru exclusive economic zones.

The boarding inspection resulted in several documented violations and, more importantly, demonstrated U.S. commitment to regulating these fishing areas in conjunction with our partners in the region.

"The superb coordination of the USS Kidd, along with a detachment of Coast Guard personnel provided a unique capability to detect, identify and ultimately board U.S. and foreign fishing vessels in remote Pacific regions," said Cmdr. Richard Howes, Fourteenth Coast Guard District enforcement branch chief. "The Coast Guard, working alongside NOAA and DOD partners, is committed to combating transnational threats throughout Oceania."

"OMSI is aimed to diminish transnational illegal activity and enhance regional security and interoperability," said Cmdr. Gabe Varela, Kidd's commanding officer. "By combining forces with the Coast Guard we were able to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activity."

"This mission really strengthened our coordination and relationship with the Coast Guard," said Lt. Doug Robb, Kidd's operations officer. "With their law enforcement detachment

embarked, we were able to leverage our respective strengths to safely and efficiently conduct these important boardings."

The Coast Guard is responsible for patrolling the waters around the numerous islands associated with the United States throughout the region. Each of these islands have territorial waters stretching out to 12 miles from shore. Beyond that, stretching out to 200 nautical miles is an exclusive economic zone, an area

Lt. Joseph Anthony, U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment officer-in-charge, right, watches Republic of Nauru police officer Falzon Laan climb down the accommodation ladder of the Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Kidd (DDG 100) to embark its rigid-hull inflatable boat to conduct a boarding of a fishing vessel within Nauru's economic exclusive zone in support of the Oceania Maritime Security Initiative. OMSI is a Secretary of Defense program that leverages Department of Defense assets transiting the region to increase the U.S. Coast Guard's maritime domain awareness, ultimately supporting its maritime law enforcement operations in Oceania.

U.S. NAVY/LOGISTICS SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS KAROLINA BROOKS

defined by international law that allows each nation exclusive rights to the exploration and use of marine resources.

Oceania contains 43 percent, or approximately 1.3 million square miles, of United States' EEZs. **(U.S. Coast Guard)**



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Voyager, the space triumph that nearly wasn't

By EDWARD C. STONE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The Voyager 1 spacecraft is the first human-made object to venture into interstellar space. Even if defined only by distance, the NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory twin Voyagers are America's greatest space adventure. They've been flying successfully for more than 36 years and are billions of miles from home. What isn't widely known is that they almost never made it out there.

The first proposed mission in the late 1960s was for four spacecraft to take advantage of a rare alignment of the four outer planets of the solar system; Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune would all be on the same side of the sun. However, in December 1971, NASA decided it couldn't afford the \$1-billion price tag for a 12-year "grand tour" mission with four spacecraft.

This alignment happens only every 176 years, and the next launch opportunity was just five years away, in 1977. To avoid missing the opportunity, JPL engineers quickly devised a plan to send two simpler spacecraft on four-year flights to Jupiter and Saturn, with the hope of continuing on to Uranus and Neptune.

But exploring space is hard. If something breaks, you can't send out a mechanic. Because of the hours it takes radio signals to travel to the spacecraft, ground controllers can't fix anything in real time. So JPL engineers had to build the smartest spacecraft yet designed, using "fault protection" programs in their small computers to spot any problems and take action. The autonomy of the two spacecraft was essential to their capability and longevity, but that also made it difficult during the first few months to learn how to fly them.

Voyager 1 was on a shorter, faster trajectory, so Voyager 2 was launched first, on Aug. 20, 1977. Soon after launch, Voyager 2's fault protection was put to the test. The spacecraft was tumbling and in a state of mechanical vertigo. The computer began exchanging primary systems for backups, following its fault-protection sequences. Although some engineers wanted to reboot the computer, a key engineer realized that a reset would be fatal because Voyager 2's sun sensor had to locate and lock onto the sun to orient itself. The engineers nervously watched the data as the spacecraft righted itself and stabilized. As someone put it, Voyager 2 was "smarter than we were."

Two weeks later, Voyager 1 had its own launch adventure but rode it out in blissful ignorance. The first-stage rocket underperformed, requiring a longer burn by the second stage to achieve the speed needed to reach Jupiter at the prescribed time. It did the job with only 3 1/2 seconds of fuel left, about the time it takes to read this paragraph. If it had run out of fuel, it would have been late for its rendezvous with Jupiter.

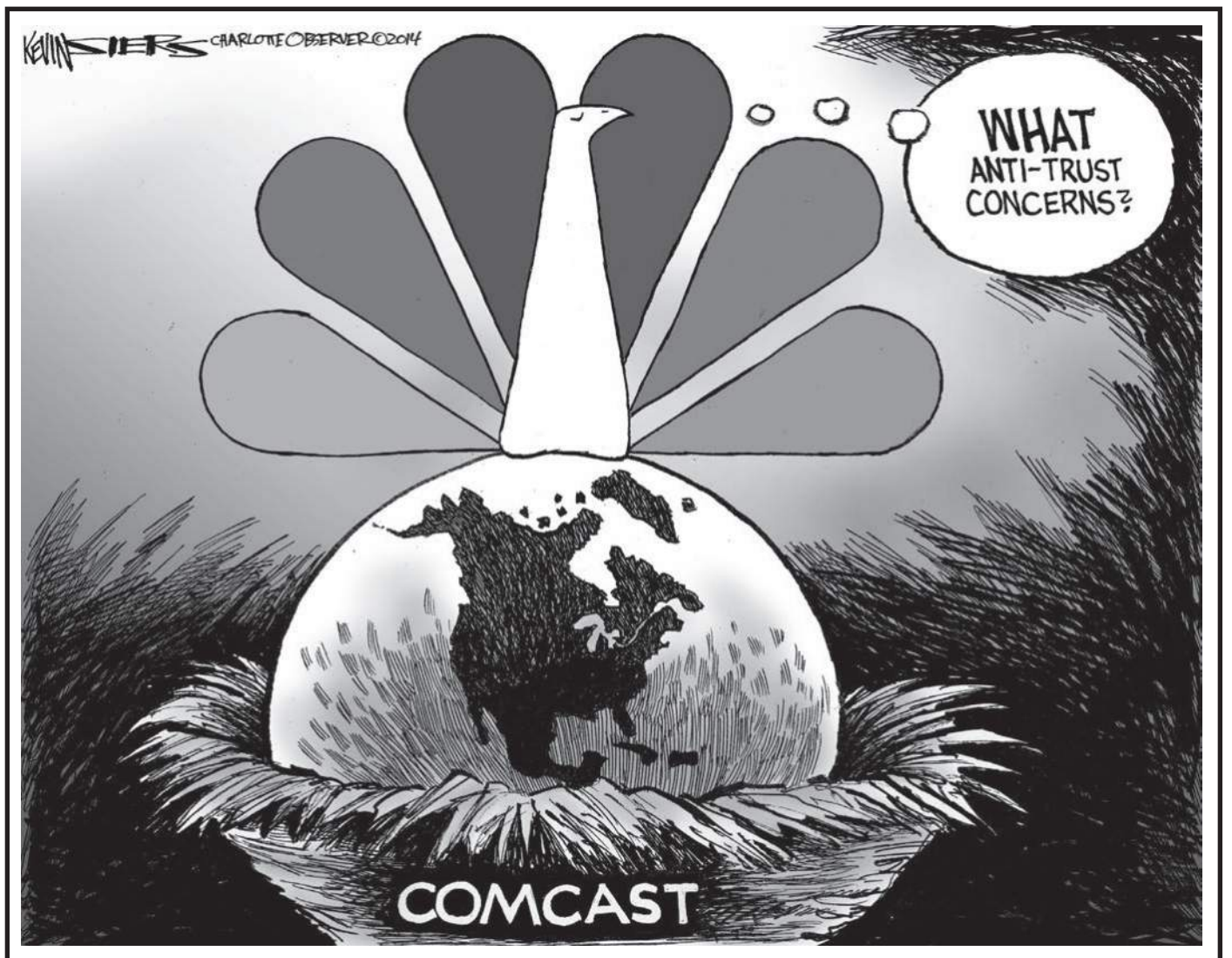
Wondrous encounters with Jupiter ensued in 1979. Thanks to the spacecrafts' cameras, the Voyagers let everyone marvel at Jupiter's orange moon Io as it spouted eight volcanic plumes, revealing it as the most geologically active object in the solar system.

Encounters with Saturn in 1980 and 1981 entranced us with images of its majestic rings and many moons. Scientists knew that its planet-size moon Titan had an atmosphere, but they didn't know it was mainly nitrogen and much denser than Earth's.

In 1981, the continuation of the Voyager journey beyond Saturn, as well as NASA's other planetary programs, were in dire danger of cancellation. But, aware of strong public interest buoyed by the illuminating images and unexpected discoveries, the White House agreed to continue the planetary program and Voyagers' mission to Uranus.

Five years later, Voyager 2 flew past Uranus. Finally, in 1989, Voyager 2 reached Neptune, finding its winds among the fastest and

See VOYAGER on Next Page



She

“Ze” has entered my vocabulary. Ze will not eliminate “he,” “she,” and “it”; just adds to it. It might even delight my Tejas-Mejicano campesinos who will mistake my use of zee language. Ze does not matter.

So I wrote in a previous column. “She”, however, does matter.

It is no longer as repeated as often, but the old Chinese saying, repeated by Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaopeng, was *nu ren neng ding ban bian tian*, “women hold half of the sky.” China today has gone back to being unapologetically patriarchal. The systemic reasons are deep, not the least of which is the universal pattern of naming a child after the father’s ancestral beginnings rather than combining the mother and father’s gifts.

In my former university classes, I printed my whole name on the board, Jaime Ravelo Vergara, to indicate how my father and mother’s last names are my surnames. When I was in Spain once, I was called Señor Ravelo. My name over there was formally written as *Jaime Vergara y Ravelo*.

The name in Spain was actually the way Filipino names were given during the Spanish period, still true in many Hispanic countries. The European practice included both parent’s surname when naming a child. It varied on whether the father or the mother’s came first or second. In some English influenced countries, the middle name is the mother’s maiden surname. In some places in the United States, the mother’s surname is dropped. In China, the wife actually had no personality in the husband’s household until she was with a child. The only time a mother’s name shows up is when a combined child’s given name includes that of the mother, more for sentimental reason than proprietary one.

My children have their mother’s surname as their middle name. However, in some places where the mother is the primary care giver, a child’s surname often takes after the mother, like those of single mothers, or divorced mothers who have sole custody of the children and reverts back to the maiden name as well as renames everyone with her surname.

Some boutique practices have entered Americana like families where the boys take on the father’s surname, and the girls, the mother’s, or vice versa. In some, a myriad of combinations apply. The hyphenated family name, i.e., Ravelo-Vergara, is common among wives and children.

The family’s surname after a marriage is also changing. In previous times, the universal practice was for the man’s surname to be adopted, and only after a divorce does the woman have the option to revert back to her maiden name. There are actually eight States in the Union that allows men to change into their wives names in marriage without petitioning the court for the normal process of name change. I once adapted to my Chinese wife’s surname since the Chi-

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



nese female always retained her maiden name after marriage. My gesture was ignored and stayed unappreciated!

If patriarchy is deeply embedded in many cultures to the detriment of female roles, conservative forces in Islamic countries insists that Sharia provisions on women’s behavior need to be followed. The kind of literal fundamentalism that dogged the Christian church of my youth is hard to dispel when imposed on members as inerant scriptural law. Judaism and Christianity have variations of the same theme. The Taliban want women to be subservient. Gang rape in India has exposed a common travesty. But SHE is fighting back.

“A rose by any other name” served Shakespeare’s audiences well, and was cute with Romeo and Juliet, but no longer. A rose by any other name is a fluke. *She* wants *her* name in golden letters in the annals of history, just as much as he does, and has as much equal right to it as anyone. No affirmative action required, just the right to be SHE!

There were seven revolutions I’ve joined in my life: 1) youth and emotive exuberance, 2) minorities and their civil rights, 3) Third World’s independence from imperial and colonial designs, 4) university vs. multiversity without a cognitive overview, 5) global business against protectionism and entrenched patrimony, 6) the rise of local men and women, and 7) women’s rightful place in humanity’s leveled field.

The ethos of youth now pervades fashion and there is nothing more disconcerting than to watch a grandma in jeans trying to look like a teenager. Minorities no longer wait under the corporate table to catch droppings. They insist on sitting around the table of life’s feasts with the rest of the crowd. Third World’s fight against imperial and colonial designs is harder to shake. Constitutional monarchies, an anachronism, still keep the aristocrats in England and the elite in Thailand in power. Universities try to keep things together, though pyramidal hierarchy still define tenure rather than flatbed swirling networks of lively intelligences. Globalization is a monster, though it shook the roots of privileged economic monopolies. The rise of local people is wreaking havoc around the word. My daughters have gone way beyond “God is a girl!”

The *We shall overcome* chorus is still playing at my house.

Biblia: Pisun Iya America

I ma'gas iya Russia ha butleha America guine gi alacha pot kinalamten siha 'nai sige ha' chumagu' yan i biblia. Estague' na leblu i pisun matuge' konstitusion Estados Unidos De America gi 1776. Megai gi prinsipiu ginen i biblia gaigne na mamotra gi hechuran palabras gi halom konstitusion.

Namatman na u guaha este na botlu ginen nasion ni megai ha punu' antes pot eksisiun relihion sa' man-hoñge na taya' mas ma'gas na atoridat ke presidenten niha. Magahet, lamegai giya America chumochoneg madiskuattisan prinsipiu siha ni gaigne gi sagradu na dokumenton nasion 'sino US Constitution.

Siña machoneg lau ni unu siña tumulaika i fitme na hineñggen mayotmente ginen manu mage lamayot patte gi konstitusion iya America. Ke lau haye mas ke Saina? Haye gi entre hita siña pumula' inestablesen faktu gi estorian todun nasion na tai tinituhon yan tai hinekog i Saina taimanu matuge' gi biblia? Ti listuyu' mama' sabiun karisu.

Esta hu guaguadog materiati siha para bai komprende haf sustansian "tai tinituhon yan tai hinekog" segun i mas man-estudiau yan famosu na tautaugue tat kumu si Aristotle, Plato, Locke, Humes, San Agustine, Aquinas yan otu siha deste siñko mit años antes. Kada unu gai hinassu gi dichu kuestion siha ni man-mafaisen. Lau ni unu kumontra i "tai tinituhon yan tai hinekog" Yuus Tata.

Unu sessu ha repite: yinease' para i man-na'mase' ya sumen taglayu' gi ti man-manhoñge giya guiya. Ha yogua gi halom guafen didog na sa'pet yan kansadu na tanu' disetto ni tai hanom. Poresu na debi kada unu u sessu bumisitague' maseha pot para in' hamyu un' ratu gi kareramu mona. Pas yan felis karamu kontodu halom mas mandidog na pinadese. Gi ti mapot na manera: Pega inañgoghomu giya guiya.

Guaguan gaston nesessidat

Bastara ke asaguahu la'mon ni mantension familia, guiya fumafahan todun nesessidat mame gi tenda. De hemunosyu' presiun fektos tat kumu lateria yan otu siha attikulun mantension.

Un' biahe hu dalalag para i tenda. Sige lumiliku' ha akompapara presiun, ha pega halom inayegña gi karetiya ya sige ham mona.

Dispues hu lie' balin un' latan satmon ni hihot esta gi nuebe pesos. Antes, disi sais sientemos ha' este na lateria. Fuetsau, debi bai' puta' kuattro sentadahu 'an hu baba ya hu fadeni' i satmon. Kontodu kadoña bai' apprubecha. Dios tiampare na guinaguan!

Hu lie' gi un' banda un' palao'an mangugu'ot salape' food stamps. 'Nai mattu gi lugat uhañg ha bale halom amanu i siña mientras sige hu katkula kuantu libra siña hu fahan. Bien suette i prohima gi fina' ayudu ya mauleg sa' guaha mantension para familiaña.

Afañielos, guaguan mampos i gaston linala' deste neñgkanu', kandet, insurance hinemlo', yan otu siha nesessidat. Man-malag manu' i sabiun I Deni'?

Kusinan Antes

Lumiliku'yu' gi hagas soñgsoñg un' lemlen tautau pot para bai' huñgog burukan finagpo' ha'ane. Hu baba espehos karetahu para bai' ñgiñgi' sabot neñgkanu' siha gi aire. Seru!

Guiya 'ste na ora yan 'an taftaf oga'an yan pa'gu pueñge 'nai duru gi kusinan sanhiyoñg i familia man-na'lagu amotsa, fina' bento' yan sena. Kulan maliñgu gi aire ayu na señaat komunida 'an oga'an yan pupueñge.

Taigue esta i asu sa' appenanas kusinan antes hayu usun diariu. Puru na tiempu elektrisida ni man-ma'atileg 'an listu i kusineru para u na'lagu.

Diberas, taya' mas mañge' ke hinegsa' mana' masan hilu' guafe

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

ni hayun tañgantañgan. Magahet na debi un' fagase tesnan satten dispues lau paire hinegsa' mu. Esta na' mahalañg maliñgun sabot neñgkanu' gi aire.

■■■

Lokue', kulan maliñgu i sumaunau bisinu gi mapulan i señgsoñg. Esta kada unu ha bira atensioña gi konbiñienteña. En lugat de u rikonose bisinuña, ha huchom pettaña ya humalom gi gima'ña de hemunos haf' guaha gi oriya. Debi u guaha inarikonose para sienkassu haf' ti mauleg masusede gi bisinu.

■■■

Ilegu na mauleg yangin hita mismu ta pañgon tatte i hagas fitme na sensian komunida gi todun señgsoñg guine. Ha establesen inafamauleg yan kooperasion gi entalu' bisinu ya todun mañgalamten gi mana' safun i señgsoñg. Mas libianu kinalamten che'chu komunida 'an ta abiba este na sensia gi todun soñgsoñg guine.

Tai malefaghu antes 'nai todun mañaunau gi che'chu' bisinu tat kumu umakamu'. Deste peska, mapunu' ga'ga', mahatsan fandañgeru, muñgayu, kusuneru, pastre yan otu siha cho'chu' mas libianu para i tautau guma'. Sumen namagof na dinaña gi hilu' riku na sensian komunida.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Not racism

Last part of a series

So you see, NMD's argument was never about personality although it was necessary to put a human face on the issue to directly link the party personally responsible for pushing such contentious, polarizing and divisive agenda before Congress. Politically charged comprehensive immigration reform legislation was made a necessary agenda by a curtailed political party in the United States because of its potential block vote effect in the upcoming elections and in particular the presidential election of 2016. According to the Pew Research Center Hispanic Trends Project, undocumented immigrant population from Mexico, Central America, Europe and Asia is 13.7 million, and as the economic condition of the U.S. improves, this number will increase significantly. So you can imagine the profound political interest on these groups of people due largely to their potential voting power for changing the election outcomes that will determine which political party controls either or both houses of Congress. U.S. politicians have their own reasons for taking on the issue of comprehensive immigration reform; their social, political, economic and cultural situations are distinctively different than ours here in the Commonwealth, and we should not be meddling in their political kettle. In the first place, the Commonwealth should never

have been included in S. 744 political debate because Public Law 110-229 sufficed. Besides, we are not legal participants in presidential elections to matter anything at all. Considering all these facts, one wonders what is the real deal behind the rush for inclusion in S. 744 and HR. 15. If the CNMI's Commission on Federal Laws were still operational, they would have totally rejected such attempt because Congress has already adequately addressed immigration matters for aliens living in the Commonwealth.

As to allegations of racism leveled against NMDs, Chamorro and Carolinian, nothing could be further from the truth. No one ever claimed that Chamorros and Carolinians are superior over other cultural groups. I never knew that asserting your own cultural rights and "internal sovereignty" over your homeland is racist. Since when is it racist to challenge an idea or issue that poses a real threat to the long-term interest of our cultural survival? NMDs are not just protesting simply for the sake of igniting unnecessary controversy with our delegate to Congress. It is all about intent, process, and consequence and the absence of appropriate education and consultation. Had the good delegate engaged the Chamorros and Carolinians in this debate prior to the introduction of the two immigration bills, our energies could have been spent on other pressing matters facing our people today. But because he miscal-

culated the resolve of his Chamorro and Carolinian sisters and brothers, that is why the matter of adjusted immigration status and pathway to citizenship issue is going further than he anticipated. What we are also protesting and adamantly opposed to are for foreign aliens to use the NMDs as their "gateway" for their self-interest and "walk on our backs" to achieve it. Chamorros and Carolinians are living souls and have emotions too. So it is particularly hurtful to continue to be generous and sympathetic after our reputation is maligned and the graciousness of our Commonwealth is repeatedly vilified during foreign aliens' public demonstrations. NMDs are not against the pursuit of happiness for all foreign aliens so long as they don't infringe upon our rights and give little respect to our traditional values and way of life. In business, politics and in life, adhering closely to cultural etiquettes of any community is a must and failure to do so or blatant disregard and ridicule is considered offensive.

"A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the souls of its people," said Mahatma Gandhi.

Daniel O. Quitugua

Acting president, NMDC
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Critics and more marijuana foolishness!

My mother once told me that if you are doing something to help people there will always be those who will complain and she was right. Heck, they even complained and killed Jesus Christ so my critics and their foolishness are to be expected. For Winnie Atalig to say "no offense" and use my name for the title of her attacking letter reeks with foolishness and hatred, not respect. To say my statements about marijuana are not interesting but yet write a public letter reeks of interest with foolish hate. Asking me to do their homework on marijuana when there's a plethora information and proof that the legalization of marijuana can turn our economy around.

Readers can tell you are hating because I already answered the questions you asked about crime and revenues, Winnie. I wonder if you were a student who didn't pay attention in class and asked questions that have been answered. FYI, you need to read my previous letters and do your own homework because other readers already know the answers. So stop complaining and grandstanding, Winnie.

You are really making yourself look foolish, as many readers were waiting on this reply to get a laugh.

Critics and haters love to pick on who they think is the easier prey or those who are not in their political camp so I'm an easy target but Winnie is shooting at the wrong one. Why didn't she ask the governor how casinos will change our economy and the effects of casinos? Do casinos really reduce crime? Do casinos invite the use of hard drugs or make it worse? Will casinos really raise new revenues? The governor is shoving casinos down our throats with no supporting proof, Winnie, and you have the nerve to complain about an alternative that states are lining up to try!

Winnie, you may be against legalizing marijuana but the President, majority of citizens in the mainland and many states are for marijuana reforms and legalization, so you are becoming an endangered species figuratively. You and Francisco are asking the same foolish questions that I have already answered so either go back and read or do your own homework because I personally don't give a

tiny Earth in the black distance, the famed "pale blue dot."

Without the Voyager mission, we wouldn't have been able to see the diversity and splendor of our solar system up close, to answer that haunting, persistent question, "What is it like out there?" The adventure that almost didn't happen will continue as Voyager 2 joins Voyager 1 in exploring the space between the stars, until about 2025, when power runs out. They will journey on, carrying

golden records, which are time capsules of Earth where their great adventure began.

Edward C. Stone, a former director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, is the project scientist of NASA's Voyager mission and a professor of physics of Caltech. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

VOYAGER

From Page 10

strongest even though it's the farthest from the heat of the sun.

Before Voyager 1's cameras were turned off (to save power and memory), they looked back toward the sun, taking a photograph of

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast to east winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼76
Palau	Showers	▲86 ▼75
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲88 ▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲85 ▼78
Kosrae	Showers	▲85 ▼78
Majuro	Showers	▲86 ▼80

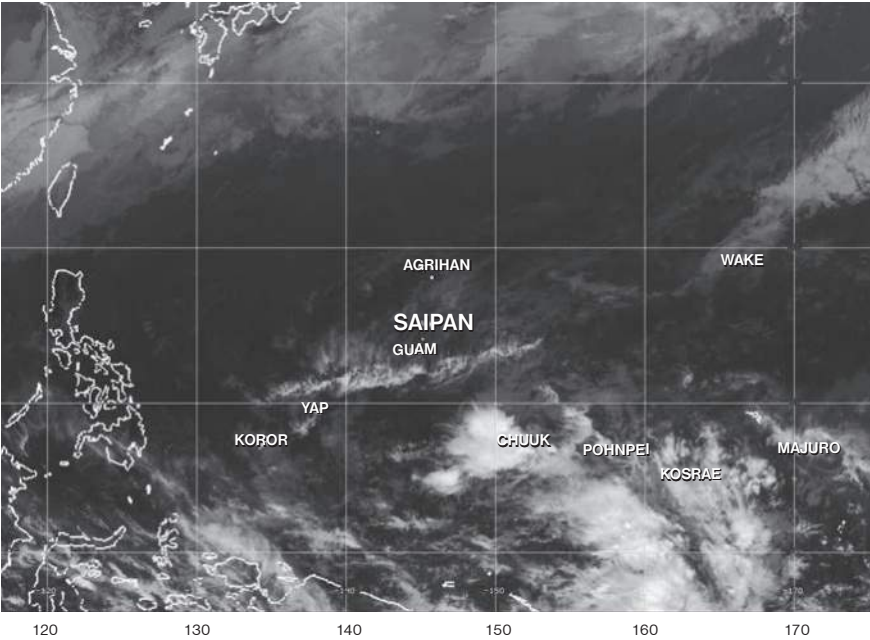
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲74 ▼68
Beijing	Sunny	▲47 ▼27
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲61 ▼57
Honolulu	Showers	▲82 ▼70
London	Showers	▲52 ▼38
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲79 ▼50
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼73
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼55
Miami	Sunny	▲83 ▼72
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲46 ▼39
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲46 ▼34
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲50 ▼39
Pusan	Sunny	▲47 ▼36
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲60 ▼49
Salem	Rain	▲48 ▼36
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲65 ▼47
Seoul	Sunny	▲42 ▼27
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲48 ▼32
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲55 ▼47

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
4:43 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
10:48 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
5:35 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
11:33 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from 1N130E to 5N137E through a circulation south of Chuuk near 4N140E to 4N164E then continues to the southeast to end near the equator and 172E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms can be found over Chuuk between 4N and 10N from 137E to 155E and over Pohnpei and Kosrae between the equator and 7N from 155E to 169E. A cold front north of Wake Island extends southwest from 25N171E to 23N166E then continues as a shear line to just east of the Marianas near 15N150E. Patchy clouds and showers are seen along and up to 350 miles northwest of these boundaries.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:39 AM	6:22 PM
Friday	6:39 AM	6:23 PM
Saturday	6:38 AM	6:23 PM
Sunday	6:38 AM	6:23 PM
Monday	6:37 AM	6:23 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:41 PM	9:49 AM
Friday	11:36 PM	10:34 AM
Saturday		11:23 AM
Sunday	12:32 AM	12:16 PM
Monday	1:30 AM	1:12 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 25, 2014

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily UA5039 1:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6 UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5038 12:10pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:00am 8:40am Daily DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ102 2:20am 5:50am 3 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7 (will increase eff Jan 29) DZ104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN DZ101 8:30am 2:00pm 3 OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily DZ103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6 (will increase eff Jan 29)
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:00am 8:00am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:20pm 3:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/473 6:00am 10:55pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR11 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:30pm 5 via Guam UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:50pm 1, 4, 7 via Guam UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 7:45am 1:30am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5077 9:55am 5:35pm 2, 7 via Guam UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
SAIPAN-TIANJIN (TSN) D2884 10:45am 2:45pm Jan 25, 30, Feb 4, 9, 14, 24	TIANJIN (TSN)-SAIPAN D2885 4:45pm 12:20am+1 Jan 25, 30, Feb 4, 9, 14, 24
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH) D2880 4:30pm 8:00pm Jan 28, Feb 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27	HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN D2881 10:00pm 5:15am+1 Jan 28, Feb 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27
SAIPAN-WUHAN (WUH) D2882 11:00am 3:15pm Jan 27, Feb 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26	WUHAN (WUH)-SAIPAN D2883 5:15pm 12:20am+1 Jan 27, Feb 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com



Diesel fuel removed from grounded vessel in Guam

APRA HARBOR, Guam—The U.S. Navy, in partnership with other federal and local agencies, removed approximately 540 gallons of the remaining diesel fuel from the grounded Japanese commercial fishing vessel *Daiki Maru 7* in outer Apra Harbor yesterday.

On Feb. 16, about 50 gallons of fuel was removed and an additional 540 gallons was removed Feb. 18. The diesel fuel was pumped into containers on

shore and then staged in an environmentally safe containment zone for disposal. Additionally, four marine batteries and several fishing nets were safely removed.

Divers assessed the vessel and determined the portside and bow fuel tanks have ruptured, and approximately 60 percent of the estimated 7,500 total capacity was lost in the wreck and aftermath. Efforts are currently underway to safely remove the remaining fuel. The chemical nature of diesel fuel is that it dissipates at a high rate in high

surf, and high temperature environments. Based on NOAA modeling of this location, minimal diesel would remain after 24 hours. Environmental teams have found no visual evidence of fuel residue or sheen on the beach and surrounding waters.

“Removing an additional 540 gallons of the diesel fuel and most of the other miscellaneous hazardous materials brought us one step closer to completing our primary objective of protecting the environment and allows us to shift from an emergency response to a salvage

operation,” said Dennis Siler, Naval Base Guam operations manager. “Once we finish removing the remaining fuel, the next big challenge the unified command and particularly the salvage teams will face is how to safely remove the vessel.”

Contract salvage teams are assessing the vessel and formulating plans for the removal of onboard refrigerants, and for breaking down and removing the vessel from its current location.

The Navy and all partners in the unified command are tak-

ing the necessary steps to address the situation and ensure the protection of the environment. The unified command maintains a top priority of assessing, planning for, and removing hazardous materials from the vessel to mitigate damage to the environment.

The unified command consists of representatives from Naval Base Guam, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, Guam Environmental Protection Agency, and the responsible party. Other agencies that have been involved in all aspects of planning

Contracted salvage teams attach fuel lines to the grounded *Daiki Maru 7* to remove diesel fuel Feb. 18. Since the Japanese fishing vessel ran aground Feb. 13, salvage crews have removed hazardous materials to help preserve the environment.

MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS TIMOTHY WILSON

from the standup include Joint Region Marianas Operations, Naval Facilities Command Environmental personnel, NOAA, Guam Fish and Wildlife Service, Cabras Marine and Osroco. (PR)



MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS TIMOTHY WILSON

The U.S. Navy, in partnership with other federal and local agencies, remove diesel fuel from the grounded Japanese commercial fishing vessel *Daiki Maru 7* in outer Apra Harbor, Guam Feb. 18. Clean up and salvage efforts have continued since the vessel ran aground Feb. 13.



MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS TIMOTHY WILSON

Workers prepare to attach a fuel line to the *Daiki Maru 7*, Feb. 18. The Japanese fishing vessel ran aground off the coast of Guam Feb. 13.



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Southeagle TF3-40
Table Fan White 16"

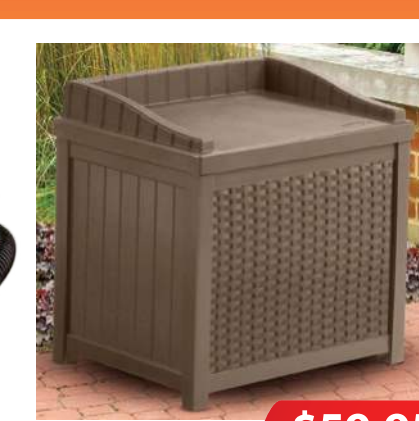
\$22.95



Cleanforce 1400 PSI
Electric Pressure
Washer
\$189.95



Craftsman 2.5 Gal
Wet/Dry Vac
\$39.95



\$59.95

Suncast 22gal
Resin Wicker Deck Box



Bright Starts Bounce
Baby Bouncer
\$69.95



Cosco Rightway
Booster Seat Belt
Positioning
\$42.95



TGF Shower Caddy
Tension Pole with Mirror
\$29.95



Bath Towels
\$5.95



Level Loop Area
Rug 54"X84" (5'X7')
\$26.95

Bath Rug 3pc Set

\$10.95

Carpet 80X50cm **\$5.95**



Suit Case 3pc Set **\$89.95**



Plus Start 150
Amp Battery
Booster Cable
\$9.95



Infiniflo
Diamond
50ft Hose
\$31.95



Prime Outdoor
Extension
Cord 25'
\$9.95



Gracious Living 36 Inch
Round Table
\$35.95

BBQ Pro 22.5 Round
Kettle Charcoal Grill
\$59.95



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Ez-Up Escort 12X14
Instant Shelter
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Business

CBO: Wage hike will lift pay, cost jobs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Boosting the federal minimum wage as President Barack Obama and congressional Democrats are proposing would increase earnings for more than 16.5 million people by 2016 but also cut employment by roughly 500,000 jobs, Congress' nonpartisan budget analyst said Tuesday.

In a report containing ammunition for both supporters and opponents of the Democratic election-year proposal, the Congressional Budget Office said gradually raising the minimum from \$7.25 hourly to \$10.10 would lift 900,000 people above the federal poverty level by 2016. That is out of 45 million who would otherwise live in poverty without an increase.

But the analysis also noted a downside: About 0.3 percent fewer jobs, especially for low-income workers; higher costs for business owners and higher prices for consumers.

The study was unveiled as the Senate prepares for a March debate on a plan by Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, ramping up the minimum in three steps to \$10.10 by 2016. The proposal is

backed by Obama and is a key-stone of Democrats' campaign-season plans to highlight their effort to make incomes more equitable, but it faces strong Republican opposition and long odds of approval by Congress.

The analysis, which examined increases very similar to Harkin's, immediately added fuel to the partisan dispute over the proposal. It put authoritative weight behind longtime GOP claims that increasing the minimum wage would cost jobs by forcing companies to spend more on wages, putting Democrats on the defensive.

"This report confirms what we've long known: While helping some, mandating higher wages has real costs, including fewer people working," said Brendan Buck, spokesman for House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio. "With unemployment Americans' top concern, our focus should be creating—not destroying—jobs for those who need them most."

The budget office said its estimate of employment losses was approximate. It said the actual impact would likely range

from a very slight employment reduction to a loss of 1 million workers.

"If and when Democrats try to push this irresponsible proposal, they should be prepared to explain why up to a million Americans should be kept from having a job—beyond the work already lost due to Obamacare," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., using a favorite nickname of the GOP's favorite election-year target—Obama's 2010 health care overhaul.

Democrats cited other studies that they said concluded employment would not be reduced. They said job-reduction claims are overblown and outweighed by the benefits to workers and the overall economy as low-paid employees use their higher incomes to spend more money.

The CBO job-loss figures "do not reflect the overall consensus view of economists which is that raising the minimum wage has little or no negative effect on employment," Jason Furman, chairman of the White House's Council of Economic Advisers, said in a blog post with council member Betsey Stevenson.

Obama, fellow Dems are at odds on big trade bills

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama wants to put major emerging trade deals with Europe and Asia on a "fast track" to congressional passage. But with midterm elections looming, many fellow Democrats are working to sidetrack them instead.

At the same time, Obama has found an ally in a traditional foe, Republican House Speaker John Boehner.

If ratified, the proposals—the Trans-Atlantic and Trans-Pacific Trade and Investment Partnerships—would create the largest free-trade zone in the world, covering roughly half of all global trade.

In his State of the Union address, Obama asked Congress to give him "trade promotion authority," usually known as fast track, to negotiate the twin trade deals. But the separate negotiations with the European Union and 11 Pacific Rim nations are generating strong emotions at home and abroad.

Many Democrats up for reelection in November are fearful of drawing primary-election

opposition over the trade talks. Concerned about lost jobs that are important to labor unions, they're abandoning Obama on this issue.

Late last year in fact, 151 House Democrats, roughly three quarters of the chamber's Democratic membership, signed a letter to Obama signaling their opposition to granting him fast-track trade authority.

Obama said his goal in requesting such authority was "to protect our workers, protect our environment and open new markets to new goods stamped 'Made in the USA.'" But the president, never known as an enthusiastic free-trader in the past, has yet to make an all-out push for the authority, which was last approved by Congress in 2002 for President George W. Bush but expired in 2007.

Meanwhile, some European allies are pushing back, still peeved over disclosures of National Security Agency surveillance of them.

Obama had hoped an agreement could be reached on the trans-Pacific talks before he

visited Japan and other Asian nations in April. The Pacific talks are further along than the Atlantic ones.

But the trans-Pacific talks have been complicated by disputes over environmental issues and resistance in some Asian countries to a wholesale lowering of trade barriers. Also, U.S. standing in the region took a hit when Obama missed the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting last October because of the American government shutdown.

At home, clearly more Republicans support free-trade agreements than do Democrats. Business interests generally favor such pacts, while labor unions tend to oppose them. Lower-priced imported goods and services may be welcomed by U.S. consumers, but one consequence can be the loss of U.S. manufacturing and service jobs.

Fast-track authority speeds up congressional action on trade deals by barring amendments.

Boehner, R-Ohio, taunts Obama by asserting that "Trade Promotion Authority is ready to go. So why isn't it done?"

in Indonesia and Malaysia alone, say leaders of a campaign to reform the practice.

Utah mom buys all of store's 'indecent' T-shirts

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—A mother upset about "indecent" T-shirts on display at a Utah mall found a quick if not especially convenient way to remove them: She bought every last one. Judy Cox and her 18-year-old son were shopping Saturday at the University Mall in Orem, about 40 miles south of Salt Lake City, when she saw the shirts in the window of a PacSun store. The shirts featured pictures of scantily dressed models in provocative poses.

Nation

Soldiers mugging around empty casket sparks furor

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The Wisconsin National Guard announced Tuesday that it had suspended a member from honor guard duties after she apparently posted to social media a photograph of soldiers mugging around an empty, flag-draped casket.

The group photograph taken at a National Guard training facility in Arkansas sparked a furor on Facebook, in military chat rooms and other social media, where people saw it as disrespectful of veterans and those killed in action. The National Guard said it was taking steps to protect the soldier who posted the photograph after she received death threats.

The photograph originally posted on Instagram shows about a dozen soldiers clowning around a casket draped in a flag. Several hug playfully. One flashes a peace sign. Another has his back turned and is pointing off in the distance.

The caption reads, "We put the FUN in funeral -- your fearless honor guard from various states."

The photograph was posted from an account belonging to Spc. Terry Harrison, of the Madison, Wis.-based 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation Regi-



This photo posted to the Instagram account belonging to Spc. Terry Harrison shows a dozen soldiers clowning around a casket draped in a flag at a National Guard training facility in Arkansas.

ment, according to the National Guard. That account has since been closed, but others have reposted the picture and Harrison's comments on mul-

tiple social media sites.

Judy Vincent, of Poteau, Okla., said she saw the picture when a friend reposted it on Facebook.

'No verification' for Pa. wife's killing claims

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—Police haven't substantiated a newlywed woman's claims that she killed more than 20 people in four states before the killing she's now charged with committing with her husband, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

Northumberland County District Attorney Tony Rosini said ethical rules bar him from commenting on the statements by Miranda Barbour, who with Elytte Barbour is awaiting trial in the death of a man they're accused of luring through a Craigslist ad for companionship.

But Rosini, who's pursuing the death penalty for the Barbours, said in a prepared

statement: "As of this date, there has been no verification of any of the information that has been the subject of media coverage regarding prior acts of the defendant."

Miranda Barbour, in a Friday prison interview with The Daily Item in Sunbury, claimed to have killed at least 22 people in Alaska, Texas, North Carolina and California in the past six years as part of her involvement in a satanic cult.

"I just want to get it out," Barbour, 19, told the newspaper.

In the Sunbury homicide investigation, the Barbours repeatedly changed their accounts of the events leading up to the Nov.

11 death of Troy LaFerrara, who police say met up with Miranda Barbour for companionship in exchange for money.

Ultimately, police said, Miranda Barbour stabbed LaFerrara, of Port Trevorton, about 20 times in her parked car. They said Elytte Barbour held a cord tight against LaFerrara's neck from the back seat and then dumped his body in an alley.

Miranda Barbour initially denied knowing LaFerrara, who was 42, but changed her story when police gathered evidence including records that showed the last call to his cellphone came from hers, authorities said.

Man charged in teen death says he shot to scare

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—A man accused of fatally shooting a 15-year-old girl told investigators he fired his pistol because he wanted to scare a carload of teenagers he believed vandalized his vehicle, Little Rock police said Tuesday.

Police released an account of the shooting, which they said followed a series of pranks between groups of young people over the weekend. A police spokesman, Lt. Sidney Allen, said the man charged in the shooting is the father of a teenager who was targeted in the exchange of pranks.

Police said Willie Noble, 48, shot at the carload of teenagers after he found eggs, mayonnaise and toilet paper cover-

ing his car Friday night. He waited for the teens to return, then fired his gun, police said. Adrian Broadway died early Saturday morning from a gunshot wound to the head.

"Mr. Noble stated that he waited inside because he knew whoever vandalized his vehicle was going to come back. Mr. Noble stated that once they returned (about 45 minutes later), he fired his handgun to scare them," according to the statement released by police Tuesday.

In the news release, police noted that Noble did not call police before or after the shooting. The driver of the car, a mid-size sedan with seven teens in it, fled to a convenience store

where the youths called police. Officers found the driver side of the car pocked with bullet holes. Adrian was in the front passenger seat, and later died at a hospital.

Noble is charged with first-degree murder, five counts of aggravated assault and committing a terroristic act. He's being held in the Pulaski County Jail on \$1 million bond. Jail records didn't indicate a pending court date or whether he has an attorney. Inmates generally get an attorney around the time they are arraigned.

The prosecutor's office said Tuesday that the case file hadn't yet been sent over by investigators.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Kellogg to use environmentally friendly palm oil

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP)—Kellogg Co. says it will buy palm oil only from companies that don't destroy tropical rainforests to produce the additive used in many processed foods. The cereal giant responded to a campaign by environmental groups that have long pressured the food industry to shun palm oil from plantations that displace rainforests in Southeast Asian nations, primarily Indonesia. The forests are home to endangered species such as the orangutan and Sumatran tiger. Palm oil cultivation has wiped out more than 30,000 square miles of rainforests

Asia

Asylum seeker dies in protest at PNG camp

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Police in Papua New Guinea opened fire after hundreds of men pushed down the perimeter fence and broke out of an Australian-run detention camp for asylum seekers during a violent protest in which one inmate was killed and scores were injured, an Australian official said.

Papua New Guinea is one of two South Pacific nations where Australia operates camps to house thousands of asylum seekers, mostly from war-torn countries in the Middle East, who have tried to enter the country illegally after dangerous sea journeys from Indonesia. Australia intercepts them at sea and sends them to camps at Manus Island or the tiny Pacific atoll nation of Nauru while their refugee claims are evaluated for resettlement in those countries.

The unrest at the camp in Papua New Guinea, which began late Monday and ended Tuesday, has heightened pressure on Canberra to close these camps but the government was holding firm, saying it is an effective deterrent against asylum seekers.

The provocation for the vio-

lence at Manus Island was not immediately clear. Australian Immigration Minister Scott Morrison described the violence as the latest in a series of protests at the camp, which houses around 1,300 men from countries including Afghanistan, Sudan's Darfur region, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Pakistan, Somalia, and Syria.

"This is a tragedy, but this was a very dangerous situation where people decided to protest in a very violent way and to take themselves outside the center and place themselves at great risk," he told reporters.

He said one man died from head injuries as he was taken to the hospital. He would not disclose the victim's nationality, or say how he had sustained the injuries.

The Papua New Guinea government revealed that the dead man was an Iranian national, Australian Broadcasting Corp. reported.

Another person was shot in a buttock and was flown to the Papua New Guinea capital Port Moresby while one man was flown to Australia for treatment of a fractured skull, Morrison said.

In all, 77 people received medical treatment including 13 who were seriously injured, he said.

Morrison initially said the injuries had occurred outside the camp but later said he was uncertain whether the fatal injuries had been inflicted within the camp or outside. Papua New Guinea authorities would investigate, he said.

He said Papua New Guinea police opened fire after detainees pushed down the perimeter fence and spilled into the street around the camp, whose security guards had unsuccessfully used shields to push back the asylum seekers.

There were conflicting reports about the violence.

Ian Rintoul, spokesman for the Australian advocacy group Refugee Action Coalition, said he had spoken to inmates inside the Manus camp and was told asylum seekers had been attacked by police and local residents.

Gangs of police and locals—armed with machetes, pipes, sticks and stones—had roamed from compound to compound within the camp attacking asylum seekers, the coalition said.

Thai police clash with protesters, leaving 4 dead

BANGKOK (AP)—Gunbattles broke out Tuesday as hundreds of riot police made their strongest attempt to clear anti-government protest sites around Thailand's capital, leaving at least four people dead and 64 others injured.

Multiple gunshots were heard near the prime minister's offices, where riot police wearing helmets and bulletproof vests had started to remove protesters and dismantle a makeshift stage. Witnesses said a grenade was thrown at the police and shots were then fired by both sides. The police withdrew after a series of clashes.

In another blow for Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, the state anti-corruption agency accused her on Tuesday of improperly handling an expensive rice subsidy scheme, putting her in jeopardy of being impeached.

The National Anti-Corruption Commission said Yingluck's government proceeded with the scheme despite advice from experts that it was potentially wasteful and prone to corruption. The government has been months late in making payments to farmers

for the rice they pledged to sell at above-market prices.

The commission said Yingluck has been called to formally hear the charges on Feb. 27. If it decides to submit the case to the Senate for possible impeachment, Yingluck will immediately be suspended from performing her official duties pending a Senate trial.

Yingluck's elected government has been attempting to avoid violence to keep the powerful military from stepping in. Thailand has been wracked by political unrest since 2006, when Yingluck's brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, was ousted by a military coup after being accused of corruption and abuse of power. Since then, his supporters and opponents have vied for power, sometimes violently.

Erawan emergency medical services said three civilians and a police officer died and 64 others were injured in Tuesday's clashes, including journalists covering the protests for a Hong Kong TV station and the Span-

ish news agency EFE.

The violence erupted after police moved into several locations around the city to detain and remove protesters who have been camped out for weeks to press for Yingluck's resignation. They want the formation of an unelected people's council to implement reforms to end corruption and remove the Shinawatra family from politics.

They have blocked access to government offices since late last year and occupied key intersections around Bangkok for about a month. Until now, the police had refrained from dispersing them for fear of unleashing violence.

But on Monday, the government's special security command center announced it would reclaim five protest sites around the city for public use, a move made possible under a state of emergency declared in January. Thousands of police officers, including armed anti-riot squads, were deployed across the city Tuesday in an operation the government called "Peace for Bangkok."

World

Riot police move in against Kiev protest camp



AP
Anti-government protesters clash with riot police in Kiev's Independence Square, the epicenter of the country's current unrest, Kiev, Ukraine, Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2014.

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—Amid cries of "Glory to Ukraine!" and with flaming tires lighting up the night sky, thousands of riot police armed with stun grenades and water cannons attacked the sprawling protest camp in the center of Kiev on Tuesday, following a day of street battles that left 18 people dead and hundreds injured.

The violence was the deadliest in nearly three months of anti-government protests that have paralyzed Ukraine's capital in a struggle over the nation's identity, and the worst in the country's post-Soviet history.

With the boom of exploding stun grenades and fireworks nearly drowning out his words at times, opposition leader Vitali Klitschko urged the 20,000 protesters to defend the camp on Independence Square that has been the heart of the protests.

"We will not go anywhere from here," Klitschko told the

crowd, speaking from a stage in the square as tents and tires burned around him, releasing huge plumes of smoke. "This is an island of freedom and we will defend it," he said.

Many heeded his call.

"This looks like a war against one's own people," said Dmytro Shulko, 35, who was heading toward the camp armed with a fire bomb. "But we will defend ourselves."

As police dismantled some of the barricades on the perimeter of the square and tried to push away the protesters, they fought back with rocks, bats and fire bombs. Against the backdrop of a soaring monument to Ukraine's independence, protesters fed the burning flames with tires, creating walls of fire to prevent police from advancing. A large building the protesters had used as a headquarters caught fire and many struggled to get out. Many of the protesters were

bleeding.

Speaking over loudspeakers, police urged women and children to leave the square because an "anti-terrorist" operation was underway.

The protesters appeared to sense that Ukraine's political standoff was reaching a critical turning point. Waving Ukrainian and opposition party flags, they shouted "Glory to Ukraine!" and sang the Ukrainian national anthem.

Shortly before midnight, Klitschko headed to President Viktor Yanukovich's office to try to resolve the crisis, his spokeswoman said. An hour later, he was still waiting to be received.

Earlier in the day, protesters attacked police lines and set fires outside parliament, accusing Yanukovich of once again ignoring their demands and dragging his feet on a constitutional reform to limit presidential powers.

Syria drives rebels from site of alleged killings

BEIRUT (AP)—Government troops have regained full control of a village in central Syria after ousting rebels accused of killing dozens of people there, state media said Tuesday as activists reported an explosion in a southern town killed at least 18 people.

The SANA state news agency said government troops seized control of the village of Maan in Hama province on Monday after destroying the last "hideouts of terrorists, who came into the village and committed a massacre." The government refers to rebels fighting to overthrow President Bashar Assad as terrorists.

Syria's nearly three-year-old conflict has grown increasingly sectarian, pitting a rebellion dominated by the country's Sunni Muslim majority against Assad's government and its security forces, which are stacked with members of the leader's Alawite sect, an offshoot of

Shiite Islam.

Opposition activists have also reported sectarian killings in Maan earlier this month. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said at least 40 people, most of them Alawites, were killed when hard-line, anti-Assad Islamic fighters overran the village Feb. 9.

In southern Syria, a blast in the town of Muzayrib in Daraa province killed at least 18 people, including four children, the Britain-based Syria Observatory for Human Rights activist group said. Observatory director Rami Abdulrahman said it was unclear whether the explosion was a car bomb or an airstrike.

In the neighboring province of Quneitra, the army was reinforcing its positions in an effort to dislodge rebels from the area near the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

Abdulrahman reported heavy fighting in the hilly area

just south of Quneitra city, the provincial capital. He said the army is bringing more tanks, heavy artillery and troops to the region that has been under control of hard-line Islamic rebel groups for months.

The government's apparent showdown with the rebels in the south comes a day after Syrian opposition named a new military chief. Brig. Gen. Abdul-Ilah al-Bashir hails from southern Syria and was an army commander in Quneitra until 2012 when defected to the opposition.

The Observatory also reported heavy government shelling of Yabroud, the last rebel-held town near Syria's border with Lebanon. Yabroud is located in the mountainous Qalamoun region. Government troops, backed by Lebanese Hezbollah fighters have been on a crushing offensive there since early December, trying to sever a main thoroughfare for rebels from Lebanon.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Filipino Muslim rebels expel leader for beheading

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A hard-line Muslim rebel group said Tuesday it expelled a top leader and about 30 of his followers for beheading a farmer in the southern Philippines and said that it does not practice such brutality. Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Movement spokesman Abu Misry said the expulsion of vice chairman Mohammad Ali Tambako proves the group is not a terrorist band. Regional military spokesman Col. Dickson Hermoso, however, said the rebel group expelled Tambako after facing widespread condemnation for the beheading in September.

China says bigger soldiers causing cramped tanks

BEIJING (AP)—China's military says its soldiers have grown taller and wider over the past two decades, leading to cramped tanks and other equipment problems. A survey of 20,000 troops begun in 2009 found they were an average of 2 centimeters (about three-quarters of an inch) taller and 5 centimeters (about 2 inches) bigger around the waist, the official People's Liberation Army Daily newspaper reported Tuesday. The added heft is causing discomfort for soldiers as they try to squeeze into tanks designed 30 years ago. It said rifle barrels were also becoming relatively shorter for the taller soldiers, leading to accuracy problems.

Focus

US parents comb Pacific for sign of lost daughter

By NICK PERRY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Here's how Robin Wright sees it: Her 19-year-old daughter Danielle is adrift on the Pacific Ocean but is keeping her spirits up with her six crewmates on their wooden sailboat, the Nina. They're collecting rainwater, rationing food, singing, telling travel stories and planning their next adventures. Heck, Wright figures, by now Danielle may even have gotten married to one of the three young men aboard. After all, the Nina's captain is a registered celebrant.

New Zealand authorities see it very differently: They believe the 70-foot (21-meter) schooner likely sank more than eight months ago after getting battered by a storm as the crew attempted to cross the Tasman Sea from New Zealand to Australia. That's when the boat's crew stopped using their satellite phone. A search turned up no sign of the vessel and they believe there's no real chance any of them are still alive.

But Robin and husband Ricky have found it hard to give up the search for their only child. The couple from Lafayette, Louisiana, have spent the last three months living in Australia and spearheading their own search, long after New Zealand authorities gave up. This month, Ricky Wright earned his pilot's license. His aim was to fly the Australian coastline in hopes of spotting something. Anything.

They've spent \$600,000 to pay for private plane searches. The money has come not only from their own savings but also from fundraisers, friends, family, even their daughter's college fund. Deeply religious, the couple says God has kept them strong and determined.

"We cannot assume the boat sank without evidence, and we think it's highly likely that it did not," Robin Wright says. "We know there's a chance the boat sank. There is a chance. But do you assume the worst and stop searching?"

Still, the search has to end at some point.

On Tuesday the Wrights, speaking by phone from the Sydney Airport, said they were returning to the U.S. after running out of money and were unsure if they would return to Australia. Still, they won't lose hope until the anniversary of the boat's disappearance.

"After a year, I think the chances are down pretty low," Ricky Wright says. "But we will not give up on them. We know other people have survived up to a year."

The Wrights remain unhappy with aspects of the official search. They believe it began too late, wasn't extensive enough, and failed to restart when they presented authorities with a grainy satellite image they believe depicts the Nina adrift. New Zealand searchers say they did everything by the book and cannot do anything more. They say the military reviewed the ghostly image and concluded it was nothing more than the foam from a wave.

The Wrights last month met New Zealand's Transport Minister Gerry Brownlee in Wellington to express their concerns.

"They have enormous faith that the boat is still out there, that they're catching fish and freshwater, and will sooner or later make landfall. Unfortunately, none of our very extensive and expert-led search efforts concurs with that view," Brownlee says.

Ricky, 49, who brokers the sale of businesses, and Robin, 54, met at Louisiana State University. They home-schooled Danielle on their small farm, where their daughter loved to ride bareback on her horse, Copper. When Danielle was 15, the family took a sabbatical to sail the Caribbean.

"We sold everything and we went, and we don't regret it," Robin says.

She says while she and Ricky loved the tranquility, their daughter missed her friends and Facebook, and the Internet. So they sent her home every few months to reconnect and reduced a planned two-year voyage to 14 months.

The highlight for Danielle was a stop in Panama where she met



In this Sept. 2010 photo provided by Robin Wright, Danielle Wright poses for a photo in Lafayette, La.

"We know there's a chance the boat sank. There is a chance. But do you assume the worst and stop searching?"

In this undated photo provided by Robin Wright, Ricky Wright and wife Robin Wright, from Lafayette, Louisiana, stand at a dock in the New Zealand port of Whangarei, where the wooden sailboat Nina was moored in 2013.

AP

David Dyché IV, one year her junior, who'd been raised aboard the Nina. The teens soon became inseparable and the parents also became close.

When captain David Dyché III and wife Rosemary last year called from New Zealand to ask the Wrights to help crew, Danielle asked if she could go alone, during a break from the University of Louisiana where she was majoring in psychology. Her parents weren't surprised—she'd grown to more appreciate her time sailing the Caribbean and also had become so independent.

They said goodbye to Danielle on Facebook the day before she set sail, and she told them how excited she was.

The Nina left from the tiny port of Opua in northern New Zealand on May 29 bound for Newcastle, near Sydney.

As well as Danielle and the Dychés, also aboard was Kyle Jackson, 27, who grew up on a Nebraska cattle ranch; Matthew Wootton, 35, a British musician and Green Party member; and Evi Nemeth, 73, a retired University of Colorado computer science professor who two years earlier had reroofed her own house. All loved the outdoors and adventure.

A few days out, Nemeth used the satellite phone to call a New Zealand meteorologist: The weather had turned nasty, she told him, and they were seeking advice to avoid the worst of the storm. The last known communication from the Nina was a text sent June 4: "Thanks storm sails shredded last night, now bare poles" followed by a course heading.

The text never reached its intended recipient and was only later recovered by satellite phone company Iridium. The Nina had an emergency beacon aboard, but it was never activated.

New Zealand searchers say they were first told the boat was missing on June 14. They began trying to communicate with the crew but were unsuccessful. On June 25, the day authorities calculated the Nina should have reached Australia, they began a two-week aerial search.

Nigel Clifford, the general manager of safety and response services at Maritime New Zealand, says they didn't get a plane up right away in line with standard international practice—without a distress call, they wait until a boat is overdue before beginning an aerial search because there could be any number of reasons why a boat loses its communications.

"Given there was no debris, that would further suggest the boat sank. But it is a really big ocean. A really big ocean," Clifford says. Clifford says a relative of another missing Nina crew member was present when searchers had to tell him they were abandoning the aerial search.

"He said that in his heart he couldn't accept what had happened," Clifford says, "but in his head, he could."



Environment

Backyard beekeeping picking up buzz

By EMILY ALPERT REYES
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—When Max Wong first “outed” herself to her neighbors, she wondered when the police would be knocking on her door. Until then, she had kept her passion a secret.

But Wong said most of her neighbors in the Mount Washington neighborhood of Los Angeles were simply puzzled. Beekeeping? Illegal? In Los Angeles?

“It’s the yummiest way of breaking the law,” said Wong, one of the backyard beekeepers who are pushing for Los Angeles to allow apiaries in residential zones. In a city so proud of its orange trees and urban greenery, “beekeeping should never have been illegal,” she said.

Under Los Angeles codes, beekeeping isn’t allowed in residential zones like her Mount Washington yard, according to city planning officials. Backyard beekeeping

has nonetheless blossomed as Angelenos worried about honeybee health or devoted to urban farming have started tending hives at home. Now backyard beekeepers want Los Angeles to follow in the footsteps of New York and Santa Monica, spelling out rules to let people keep bees in residential neighborhoods.

If Los Angeles gives backyard beekeepers the stamp of approval, “they can come out of the closet, so to speak,” said

William Lewis, president of the California State Beekeepers Association. “They won’t need to fear that a neighbor will force them to move their hives.”

The City Council took its first step Wednesday toward

exploring the idea, asking staffers to draft a report. At a news conference before the meeting, Councilman Paul Koretz argued that urban beekeeping was especially needed in the face of colony collapse

disorder, which has devastated agricultural hives that pollinate avocados, almonds and other crucial crops.

“If you care about blueberries,” Councilman Mike Bonin added, “you care about this.”



(ALLEN J. SCHABEN/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT)

Rob McFarland, co-founder of the nonprofit HoneyLove, holds a tray of his hive box that contains from 20,000-30,000 western honeybees on the roof of his Del Rey neighborhood home, Feb. 11, 2014.

Study: Arctic getting darker, making Earth warmer

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Arctic isn’t nearly as bright and white as it used to be because of more ice melting in the ocean, and that’s turning out to be a global problem, a new study says.

With more dark, open water in the summer, less of the sun’s heat is reflected back into space. So the entire Earth is absorbing more heat than expected, according to a study published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Acad-

emy of Sciences.

That extra absorbed energy is so big that it measures about one-quarter of the entire heat-trapping effect of carbon dioxide, said the study’s lead author, Ian Eisenman, a climate scientist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California.

The Arctic grew 8 percent darker between 1979 and 2011, Eisenman found, measuring how much sunlight is reflected back into space.

“Basically, it means more

warming,” Eisenman said in an interview.

The North Pole region is an ocean that mostly is crusted at the top with ice that shrinks in the summer and grows back in the fall. At its peak melt in September, the ice has shrunk on average by nearly 35,000 square miles (90,650 sq. kilometers)—about the size of Maine—per year since 1979.

Snow-covered ice reflects several times more heat than dark, open ocean, which replaces the ice when it melts, Eisenman said.

As more summer sunlight dumps into the ocean, the water gets warmer, and it takes longer for ice to form again in the fall, Jason Box of the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland said in an email. He was not part of the study.

While earlier studies used computer models, Eisenman said his is the first to use satellite measurements to gauge sunlight reflection and to take into account cloud cover. The results show the darkening is as much as two to three times bigger than previous estimates, he said.

Box and University of Colorado ice scientist Waleed Abdalati, who was not part of the research, called the work important in understanding how much heat is getting trapped on Earth.



AP

This handout photo provided by The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) shows Arctic sea ice in 2013. The Arctic isn’t nearly as bright and white as it used to be because of more ice melting in the ocean, and that’s turning out to be a global problem, a new study says. With more dark, open water in the summer, less of the sun’s heat is reflected back into space. So the entire Earth is absorbing more heat than expected, according to a study published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Study: Toxins released by oil spills send fish hearts into cardiac arrest

By LOUIS SAHAGUN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Scientists have cracked a cellular biology mystery underlying a harmful effect oil spills have on fish: irregular heartbeats that can lead to cardiac arrest.

In studying the effects of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill on bluefin tuna spawning in the Gulf of Mexico, the research team discovered that polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, or PAHs, block “signaling pathways” that allow potassium and calcium ions to flow in and out of cardiac cell membranes and sustain normal heart rates.

Even very low concentrations of crude oil can disrupt these signaling pathways, slowing the pace of heartbeats, the researchers reported Thursday in the journal Science.

Their study also suggests that PAH cardiotoxicity was potentially a common form of injury among a broad range of species in the vicinity of the oil spilled into one of the most productive ocean ecosystems in the world.

“Until now, PAH’s toxic properties were better known for their cancer-causing effects,” said study co-author Nathaniel Scholz, manager of the ecotoxicology program for the National Oceanic and Atmo-

spheric Administration’s Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle. “But our work is showing they also have properties that are cardiotoxic, particularly among early life stages of fish.”

“At relatively higher concentrations, the effects on a developing fish heart are severe in that the heart muscle cannot do its job, or becomes deformed—those fish will die,” he said. “As for exposure to lower concentrations, these fish will survive in clean water. But when we look at them later in life, we find they have changes in the shapes of their hearts, with corresponding impacts on their ability to swim.”

In Celebration of his new life † George Sablan Ada

Born to life on February 22, 1967 and was called to eternal life on February 14, 2014

In his new life, he now joins his:

Mother: †Soledad Ilo Sablan Ada
Mother-In-Law: †Dolores Aldan Lizama
Brother: †Manuel S. Ada
‡James S. Ada
Sister-In-Law: †Linda A. Ada

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Arlene Aldan Lizama
Father: Jose Terlaje Ada
Father In Law: Manuel San Nicolas Lizama
Children and Families:
Charlene Ann Nicole L. Ada (Lashawn Ada)
Joseph Victorino D. Ada/ Stephanie Limes (Johaine Rayann L. Ada)
Geovi Ann Marie D. Ada
Georgyanne Joelynn L. Ada (Ariannalene Ada)
George Anthony D. Ada
Gordon Ichihara
Vincente D. Ada
Soledad Remedio D. Ada
Dreyvan Jay L. Ada
Britneylene Junie Lizama
Lynette Dinalynn L. Ada
Anika Jayleen Lizama
Ciara Alyssa Lizama
Manuel James Michael L. Ada

Brothers, Sisters and In Laws: Ronald S. Ada/ Miyoko E. and Children, Joseph S. Ada/ Rosie T. and Children, Vicente S. Ada/ Lina B. and Children, Remy A. Castro, Naisyllyn and Children, Henry S. Ada/ Manuela A. and Children, Leticia Carmen Aldan/Vincent and Children, Joseph Sablan/ Anning and Children

He will also be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

Nightly Rosary is being prayed at 7:30 pm the residence of his Father-In-Law, Manuel SN. Lizama in DanDan.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2014. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30am to St Jude Church in Koblerville. Responso Service will be at 8:00am followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed immediately by Interment Services at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers,

The Family



Life & Style

First night a hit for 'Tonight' host Jimmy Fallon

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—If Jimmy Fallon had already proven he was a natural hosting NBC's "Late Night," he left no doubt Monday that "The Tonight Show" now fits him like a glove.

As promised during the much-promoted run-up to his "Tonight Show" debut, Fallon made no drastic changes to the "Late Night" formula that had served him for five years. He remained funny, gracious, bubbly and, above all, comfortable presiding over a show that was different mostly for its earlier time slot, its classier production values and legendary brand name.

"We can book people from the West Coast?!" he joked at his newfound status.

He did pretty well with his bookings on opening night: Will Smith and the rock group U2.

But all that was ahead.

First, his viewers beheld his new set, boasting burnished-wood paneling and panoramic blue curtains.

They had seen his filmed opening—Jimmy as the New

York nightcrawler—shot by director Spike Lee.

They discovered that his band, the Roots, had grown by two from its already husky eight pieces.

Then out came Fallon, to thunderous applause, and planted himself on his mark (a four-leaf clover) to deliver his first monologue.

"I'm Jimmy Fallon," he began, and, with a nod to past late-night turbulence that most recently saw his "Tonight" predecessor, Jay Leno, make an unsought exit, he added, "I'll be your host—for now."

He expressed gratitude for his new gig, introduced his parents in the studio audience, and dispensed love in every direction—and made it sound authentic.

He had a few Olympics jokes, one offering sympathy to NBC



In this photo provided by NBC, Jimmy Fallon appears with Will Smith, left, during his "The Tonight Show" debut on Monday, Feb. 17, 2014, in New York.

sportscaster Bob Costas, who was sidelined from several days of Olympics coverage with a blinding bout of pinkeye.

"You could tell he was having trouble when he spent half-an-hour interviewing a mop he thought was Shaun White," Fallon cracked.

Back at his desk, he voiced what seemed like an aside: "To my buddy who said that I'd never be the host of 'The Tonight Show'—and you know who you are—you owe me a hundred bucks, buddy."

With that, Robert De Niro burst through the curtain and

plunked a hundred dollars on Fallon's desk.

But that wasn't all. In rapid succession, a parade of other celebs circled through right behind him. They included former New York Jets quarterback Joe Namath, ex-mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Lindsay Lohan, Lady

Gaga, Mike Tyson, Stephen Colbert and Sarah Jessica Parker.

Joan Rivers was also among them, repaying her "debt" and making a bit of history in the bargain: 49 years earlier to the day, the veteran comedian had made her first appearance on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" in that very studio, and had not appeared on "Tonight" since 1987, when she was banned by Carson after jumping to Fox to host her own short-lived show.

A key part of the celebratory spirit for Fallon was the fact that, after more than 40 years in Los Angeles, he and NBC have brought "Tonight" back to New York and Rockefeller Plaza, where it has reclaimed Studio 6B, once the home of Carson and, before him, "Tonight" host Jack Paar.

If viewers needed visual evidence of "Tonight's" restored New York state of mind, Fallon delivered it with flourish.

From the observation deck atop the G.E. Building he occupies, he introduced U2, who, 70 stories aloft, performed a new song, "Invisible," against a magnificent New York cityscape at a perfect moment of dusk.

AP, others seek access to Bieber arrest video

MIAMI (AP)—The Associated Press and other media outlets urged a judge Tuesday to grant access to police videos made shortly after pop singer Justin Bieber's arrest last month in Florida on driving under the influence and other charges.

The news organizations said in a motion filed in Miami-Dade County court that the 19-year-old has no legal basis to prevent release of the videos, taken at the Miami Beach police station after he was booked Jan. 23.

or redacted if they were exempt or deemed confidential.

"Quite simply, the defendant's private will does not trump Public Records Act mandates," Shullman said in the motion.

A hearing is scheduled Thursday on the matter. The office of State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle has denied the AP's request for the videos pending the outcome of the hearing, Shullman said.

Bieber has pleaded not guilty to misdemeanor charges of driving

been scheduled.

Bieber's attorneys said in their motion that Bieber would suffer "irreparable harm" if the videos are not reviewed by them before their release. One video was previously released by police, showing Bieber being patted down by an officer after his arrest. There are eight other unreleased videos.

If the recordings are released, the AP would review the content and determine what, if any, of it would meet the news cooperative's standards for publication.

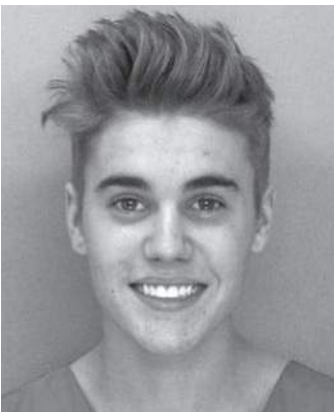
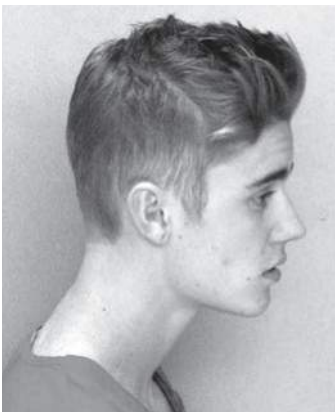
Defendants in criminal cases often ask judges to limit release of evidence to the public, but typically they claim their right to a fair trial would be jeopardized. Bieber's claim is unusual because it involves privacy rights. Bieber's lawyers have said the videos may depict him "in various states of undress" that should not be made public.

In their own filing Tuesday, prosecutors said that although there is no general right of privacy in jail, a defendant could expect that the public should not see any embarrassing information from a jail setting. The prosecution wants the judge to view the tapes before deciding whether all or parts of them should be withheld.

Besides the AP, the following news organizations have joined in the motion seeking release of the videos: the Orlando Sentinel, Scripps Media Inc. representing the Naples Daily News, the St. Lucie News Tribune, Stuart News, TCPalm.com, the Vero Beach Press Journal, WPTV-TV, WFTS-TV, and the SunSentinel Co.

under the influence of alcohol, resisting arrest and driving with an expired license. Police say he and R&B singer Khalil Amir Sharieff were involved in an illegal street drag race in a residential section of Miami Beach.

Breath tests showed that Bieber's blood-alcohol content was below the legal limit for underage drivers, but toxicology tests revealed the presence of the active ingredient in marijuana and the antidepressant Xanax. A March trial date has



These Jan. 23, 2014 police booking mugs made available by the Miami Dade County Corrections Department show pop star Justin Bieber.

Bieber's attorneys have asked a judge to allow them to review the videos before their potential release.

Attorney Deanna Shullman, who represents the AP and the other news organizations, said in the filing that Bieber cannot legally compel a state agency to withhold a public record and that his attorneys have not identified any exemption that would apply. In addition, she said the law would permit only certain portions of the videos to be withheld

Banksy work sells at Miami auction for \$575,000



NEW YORK (AP)—One of three works by the elusive British street artist Banksy has sold at a Miami auction for \$575,000.

An anonymous buyer purchased "Kissing Coppers," spray-painted in 2005 on the Prince Albert Pub in Brighton, England, at the Fine Art Auctions Miami on Tuesday night. The piece was expected to sell anywhere from \$500,000 to \$700,000.

The two other works, "Bandaged Heart" and "Crazy Horse Car Door," went unsold because they didn't receive their minimum bids, said Ashley Jimenez, a spokeswoman for Fine Art Auctions Miami. She said interested buyers can still contact the auction house within 30 days.

New York City art dealer Stephan Keszler, the owner of all three Banksy works that went to auction, said he was happy with the selling price for "Kissing Coppers" and encouraged by the offers the others received.

"Kissing Coppers," a black-and-white stencil of two uniformed English "bobbies" (police officers) in a passionate clinch, reportedly was lifted and transferred to a canvas before the pub sold it to Keszler.

"Bandaged Heart," which was spray-painted on the side of a Brooklyn warehouse, was removed by a team of specialists shortly after it was completed during Banksy's self-proclaimed New York City residency in the fall, Keszler said.

"Bandaged Heart," an image of a heart-shaped balloon covered in Band-Aids, had a pre-sale estimate of \$400,000 to \$600,000. Soon after it went up, the work was immediately "tagged" by another graffiti artist. It's believed Banksy then added the words "is a jealous little" afterward.

"Crazy Horse Car Door," also created during Banksy's New York residency, was estimated to bring \$200,000 to \$300,000. It is a rear door of a Manhattan car spray-painted with a scene depicting a struggling, Herculean figure surrounded by running horses.

In the last three years, Keszler said, he has sold 11 original works by the street artist, including "Banksy Slave Labor (Bunting Boy)," which sold for \$1.1 million in London to a U.S. collector.

This undated photo provided by Keszler Gallery in New York, Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2014, shows "Kissing Coppers," a black-and-white stencil of two uniformed English "bobbies" (police officers) in a passionate clinch.

Fallon's 'Tonight' debut gets 11.3M viewers

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jimmy Fallon's start as host of "The Tonight Show" is a ratings winner for NBC.

Nielsen company figures released Tuesday show 11.3 million people tuned in to watch Fallon's New York debut on Monday night.

It was the second-biggest audience for "Tonight" since May 2009, when Jay Leno stepped down for Conan O'Brien's brief run as host.

Fallon's "Tonight" debut fell short of the 14.6 million who tuned in Feb. 6 to see Leno sign off, again, after 22 years as host in Burbank.

Enjoying a post-Winter Olympics time slot, Fallon drew 2 million-plus viewers more than O'Brien's June 2009 "Tonight" opening audience of nearly 9.2 million.

NBC says Fallon's "Tonight" debut, with guests Will Smith and U2, was up 71 percent over his Feb. 6 "Late Night" farewell's audience of 6.6 million,



In this photo provided by NBC, Jimmy Fallon appears with Joan Rivers, right, during his "The Tonight Show" debut on Monday, Feb. 17, 2014, in New York.

Clooney, Damon attend White House movie screening

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is hosting a screening of the movie "The Monuments Men" at the White House Tuesday.

Actors George Clooney, Matt Damon and Bill Murray star in

the movie and attended the private showing at the White House. They were joined by Harry Ettlinger, a member of the original group the movie is based on.

The movie tells the story of a World War II platoon that was

tasked with rescuing art and cultural artifacts seized by the Nazis in Germany.

The White House says cultural heritage preservation is a vital foreign policy tool and helps strengthen bilateral relationships.

With kids grown, Washington wants more stage roles



Denzel Washington appears at a press opportunity for the upcoming Broadway production of "A Raisin in the Sun" on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2014 in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—Now that his children are grown, you can expect to see a lot more of Denzel Washington on Broadway.

The Tony- and Oscar-winning actor, who is set to portray Walter Lee Younger in Lorraine Hansberry's classic play "A Raisin in the Sun," is lately finding more time for theater work.

"Up until nine years ago, I hadn't been here in 15 years, from 1990 until 2005. Basically, that was because of raising my kids, my wife and I," Washington said Tuesday.

He added: "It's impossible to commute from California to New York, or New York to California doing an eight-show week schedule. So once they got old enough, I could start coming back."

Washington last appeared on Broadway in the 2010 revival of August Wilson's "Fences," where he picked up a best actor Tony.

Before coming back to Broadway in 2005 to play Brutus in "Julius Caesar," Washington hadn't appeared on a Broadway stage since 1988.

"I've been back three times in nine years. And I'll be back again, hopefully," Washington said.

Devo guitarist Bob Casale dies at age 61

NEW YORK (AP)—Bob Casale, the guitarist for Devo, best known for the 1980 hit "Whip It," has died of heart failure, his brother and band member Gerald Casale said Tuesday. He was 61.

Devo founding member Casale said in a statement that his younger brother's death Monday was "sudden" and "a total shock."

"As an original member of Devo, Bob Casale was there in the trenches with me from the beginning," Casale said. "He was my level-headed brother, a solid performer and talented audio engineer, always giving more than he got."

No further details on his death were provided.

The Ohio-based Devo introduced themselves to the world in 1977 by making a frenetic version of the Rolling Stones' "Satisfaction." The new wave band released its Brian Eno-produced debut, "Q: Are We Not Men? A: We Are Devo!," in 1978 and reached platinum status with 1980's "Freedom of Choice," which featured "Whip It."

Gerald Casale formed Devo with lead singer Mark Mothersbaugh. Alan Myers, the group's drummer, died last year after a battle with cancer age at 58.

Devo is short for devolution, the idea that man was regressing into an earlier state.

Veteran dad has no desire to start a second family

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I'm a single mom in a serious relationship with a divorced man who has children of his own. Between us, we have seven, ranging in age from 7 to 17. I'm in my early 30s; he's in his early 50s.

My dilemma: I'm interested in having another child if we get married. He definitely isn't.

Is it unreasonable for me to want to add to this already large potential blended family? I love the idea of experiencing motherhood again with a little more experience and age under my belt, and I'd love to share that intimacy with him. While he likes the abstract possibility of "our" child, he says he feels too old now and he wouldn't be able to be the kind of father he would want to be.

If neither of us had kids of our own, this would be a deal-breaker for me, but how do I know if my maternal longings are just the last, painful tickings of my biological clock, or a real desire that I'll end up resenting him for if I ignore it and we stay together?

IS SEVEN ENOUGH?

DEAR IS SEVEN ENOUGH?: Because your boyfriend is in his 50s and has made it clear that he isn't interested in becoming a father again, I think you should count your many blessings and consider that seven is a lucky number.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My godmother passed away in January 2011. My godfather, "Jim," remarried last year. I am still mourning her loss and have not been able to get myself to call and speak to Jim, even though I did send him a congratulatory wedding card.

I love him. Jim is a wonderful, kind, attractive man. I knew it wouldn't be long before another woman would take an interest in him or he'd find love again. My siblings have tried to get me to make contact with him, but I'm still not ready to accept that he has moved on with another woman. Please advise me.

CAN'T FACE IT IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CAN'T FACE IT: I am sorry for your loss, and I'm sure your godmother will always live in your heart. However, if you love your godfather, you should be glad that he has been able to move forward in his life. That he was open to finding love again speaks volumes about the quality of the marriage he shared with your godmother.

Of course seeing Jim with someone else won't be easy for you, but it is sad that you would sacrifice the special relationship you have with him because you are reluctant to face reality. For both of your sakes, I hope you'll reconsider. If you do, you may find that you like the new lady in his life.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Is it ever appropriate for a diner to lick his/her fingers in public, like when eating finger food or barbecue? It drives me nuts! I equate it to a cat cleaning itself.

When I try to get the person in question to use a napkin, I'm looked at as if I've lost my mind! At the very least, our hands are covered with germs, and who wants to stick them in their mouth? Yecch.

GROSSED OUT IN OHIO

DEAR GROSSED OUT: I think it depends upon the circumstances in which the food is being served. If someone is eating canapes at a cocktail party, licking the fingers is a no-no. And most barbecue joints provide moist towelettes to their patrons.

On the other hand, Col. Sanders used to call his fried chicken "finger lickin' good." At a picnic or informal gathering, it's purr-fectly acceptable to lick one's fingers, and I confess this tabby has probably done it, so I'm not going to cast aspersions.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Biden to appear Feb. 25 on ABC's 'The View'

WASHINGTON (AP)—The ladies of ABC's "The View" are getting a special guest next Tuesday: Vice President Joe Biden. The vice president's office says he'll appear on the daytime talk show to encourage people to sign up under the government's new health insurance program. The White House has a lot of work ahead to reach its unofficial goal of getting 7 million people to sign up by the end of March. Nearly 3.3 million people signed up between Oct. 1 and Feb. 1. Biden also is appearing on Monday's premiere of NBC's "Late Night" with Seth Meyers as the program's new host.

103 Torah scrolls from Hungary found in Russia

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)—Hungarian Jewish leaders say

they have found 103 Torah scrolls taken from Hungary during the Holocaust in a Russian library. Rabbi Slomo Koves said Tuesday the sacred texts were discovered in the manuscript section of the Lenin State Regional Library of the western Russian city of Nizhny Novgorod. Koves said negotiations are underway with Russian officials to restore the scrolls and possibly display them in international exhibits. Koves, of the Orthodox Chabad-Lubavitch community, called the find he helped make last year "of historical significance," adding that Hungary's government supports efforts to restore the scrolls. A Torah is a handmade copy on parchment scrolls of the first five books of the Old Testament. Some 550,000 Hungarian Jews were killed in the Holocaust, while around 100,000 Jews live in Hungary today.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

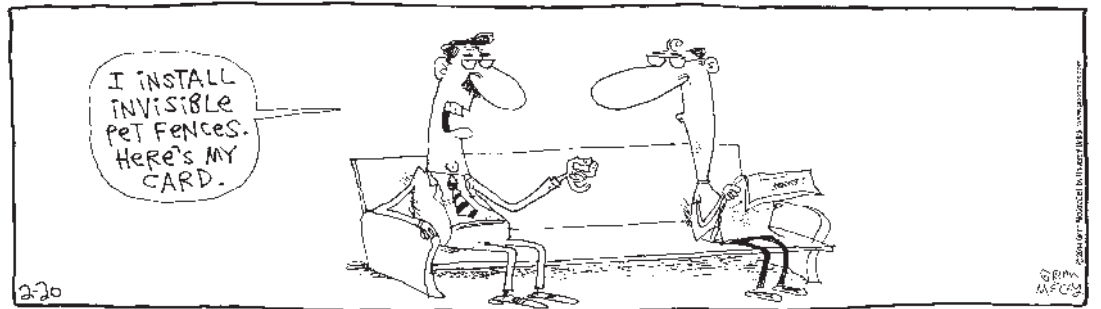
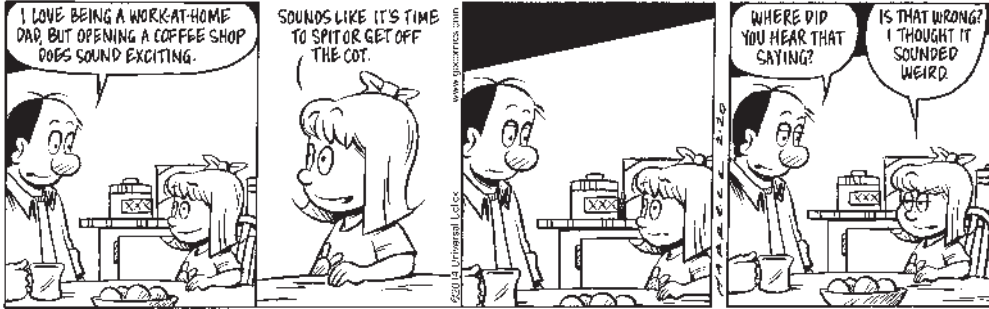


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Soft mineral

5 Weep

8 Second-hand

12 Colorful fish

13 Pussy-Cat's partner

14 Nixed, at NASA

15 Viral phenomenon

16 Author Buscaglia

17 Biblical kingdom

18 Put forth

20 Monet or Debussy

22 Pond carp

23 Superlative ending

24 Active

27 Lamb, for instance

32 Altar affirmative

33 Old Oldsmobile

34 Discovery cry

35 Huge

DOWN

31 Michele of "Glee"

24 Pen name?

25 Ginseng relative

26 Grammatical error

28 Vast expanse

29 Bankruptcy

30 The girl

31 Pirouette

36 Earache

37 Blue

38 Chess piece

41 Indefinite article

42 Finished

43 Expressionist

44 Count

46 — gum (food thickener)

47 Guy

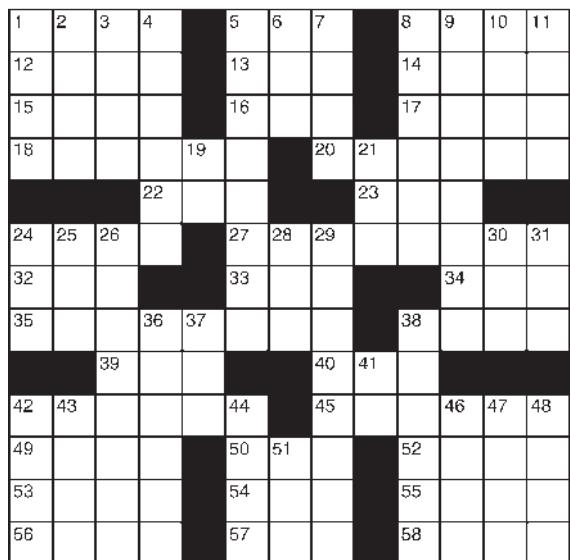
48 Uncontrolled

51 Court

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	O	N	D	P	E	T	A	S	I	A
O	B	E	Y	O	N	E	B	I	N	D
D	O	W	N	S	I	D	E	D	D	A
S	E	T	A	E	M	E	T	E	O	R
J	U	S	T	H	A	S	S	H	I	P
A	S	H	P	I	V	O	T	O	R	E
N	F	O	E	N	V	I	S	W	A	P
W	O	N	Y	O	R	E				
A	R	C	A	N	A	U	L	T	R	A
B	O	A	S	C	A	S	E	L	O	A
E	S	S	E	M	P	H	E	D	G	E
I	F	F	S	F	R	E	R	O	A	N

Yesterday's answer 2-20



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rihanna, 26; Brian Littrell, 39; Willie Garson, 50; Sidney Poitier, 87.

Happy Birthday: You will find yourself in the middle of emotional matters this year. Some will be positive and some negative. You will have to balance your options and consider how your decisions will affect others. Your insight must not be cast aside. Follow what's in your heart and you will make the changes that will bring the best results. Your numbers are 7, 16, 22, 27, 33, 39, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Protect your reputation. Put in extra hours or add more detail to the way you do your chores and your job. Help others and you will avoid being centered out. Less complaining and more production is the key to your success. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can improve your professional position if you add skills or services to what you are currently offering. Your peers, colleagues and superiors will consider you valuable if you keep up with technology and business trends. Innovation coupled with teamwork is required. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your investments may need a tune-up. Go over personal papers and any joint holdings you might have. A change regarding the person you do financial or legal business with will help you get your money matters in better shape. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Acceptance will help you maneuver through any negative encounter you face. The sooner you deal with responsibility, the quicker

you will be able to move on to the people, places and things you enjoy most. Don't let dead weight hold you back. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Taking action will allow you to show what you've got to offer and place you in a very cushy position when it comes to both your personal and professional connections. Don't let an emotional issue cloud your vision or your progress. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Walk away from an argument. Love and romance are in the stars, and setting plans to enjoy time with someone you think is special will brighten your day. Children will play a positive role in your life. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get out and about. The more you interact with people who share your interests or concerns, the further ahead you will get. A change regarding your relationships with others may be necessary if you are heading in a different direction. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do, rather than discuss, when it comes to domestic situations or decisions that must be made. By taking action you will confirm that you are willing to go the distance to make things happen. Explore friendships with people you find inspiring. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A misunderstanding can cost you, so choose your words carefully. Helping others will raise your profile, but don't allow anyone to take advantage of your good nature. Keep your money in a safe place. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Rely on your business savvy and ability to outmaneuver others. Taking an unusual route to reach your goals will help you bypass some of the competition you face. An unexpected change in one of your relationships must not throw you off course. ****



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Trust in yourself and put your time and effort into achieving your goals, not helping someone else advance. Make changes that will enable you to use your skills innovatively and you will surpass anyone trying to stand in your way. **



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Legal settlements, contracts, investments or any matter that can help you out financially should be dealt with. Money will come to you from an unusual source. Don't feel like you have to share what you receive. *****

Birthday Baby: You are a helper and a participant. You are inventive and imaginative.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



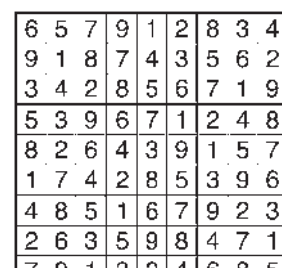
Difficulty Level ★★★

2/20

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

3/18

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FAMOUS JOES

Solution: 8 letters



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2/20

Anderson, Armstrong, Blanton, Borowski, Brooks, Buck, Budden, Cocker, Cole, Flacco, Flynn, Francis, Hart, Jackson, Lando, Lisi, Louis, Manganiello, Mantegna, Marinelli, Mauer, Mays, Medwick, Namath, Penny, Perry, Pesci, Rogan, Roth, Rubbo, Santos, Satriani, Slaughter, Spano, Spinell, Strummer, Theismann, Walsh, Ward, Weider, Wright, Zaso

Yesterday's Answer: Zeta Jones

To purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1, order online at wonderword.universalclicke.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Administrative/Accounting Clerk. Holder of a Bachelor's Degree. Must have at least two (2) years work experience in public accounting office. Must have at least five (5) years work experience in administrative position and extensive exposure working with company executives. Must have more than five (5) years experience in accounting work. Must be knowledgeable in income tax return preparation and compilation of financial statements. Must be knowledgeable in various accounting software such as Quickbooks, Peachtree, FAS & tax software. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience, beginning at \$5.55/hour. Please mail your resume at P.O. Box 503198 Saipan, MP 96950 (Ernst & Young (CNMI) Inc.)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Position: Travel Counselor
Rate: \$5.55-\$7.00/HOUR
Qualifications: Must be able to speak Japanese and at least two years experience as Travel Counselor.
Interested Applicant may call: Pacific Development Inc. @322-8786.

EMPLOYMENT

Commercial Cleaners (3) Email resume and references to beej_johnson@yahoo.com or call 287-2757.

3S Saipan Security Service
Job Vacancy Announcement
(6) Security Guard
Salary Rate: \$5.55/hr.
At least 2 years experience. Current Police Clearance. Willing to work flexible hours.
Interested applicants may send resume to P.O. Box 505846, Saipan, MP 96950.
Please send your resume no later than February 28, 2014.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Apex Builder's Inc. DBA: k-parts
(01)HOUSEKEEPER: Rate: \$5.55 to \$5.60 per hour
Performs any combination of light cleaning duties to maintain private households or commercial establishments in a clean and orderly manner. Duties may include making beds, replenishing linens, cleaning rooms and halls and vacuuming. Must be a high school/college graduate or minimum of 2-5 years experience as Housekeeper.
(1) Machinist: Rate: \$5.55 to \$5.60 per hour
Set up and operate a variety of machine tools to produce precision parts and instruments. Includes precision instrument makers who fabricate, modify, or repair mechanical instruments. May also fabricate and modify parts to make or repair machine tools or maintain industrial machines, applying knowledge of mechanics, mathematics, micrometers or calipers. Must be a high school/college graduate or minimum 2-5 years experience as Machinist.
The above positions will be closed on February 22, 2014. Interested applicants may apply at Apex Builders Inc. office located at Tun Kioshi, Kilelema Rd., As Perdido, Saipan MP96950. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing may be required.
Apex Builder's Inc. dba K parts is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

EMPLOYMENT

(10) Mason, (5) Carpenter, (1) Plumber, 5 years experience. Email resume to landmark@pticom.com.

Job Vacancy Announcement
Closing Date: February 24, 2014
• (1) Business Operations Manager
• (1) Sales/Accounting Clerk
• (1) Air-con Technician
Please send resume to
MANTRADE COMPANY INC.
P.O. Box 506118, Saipan, MP 96950

OKADA CORPORATION dba OKADAYA
Job Vacancy Announcement
One (1) Cook
Two (2) Cashier
One (1) Maintenance
■ All applicants must have a 5yrs experience on the said field.
■ Can work on flexible hour
■ Must be in good health and have good moral character.
■ Must be able to obtain health certificate,
■ Must provide current police clearance,
■ Must agree to drug test and
■ Must have a reliable transportation.
All applicants must apply in person with their resume (with picture) at 1F Joeten Commercial Building, Beach Road, Susupe

Moving Off-Island Sale
Saturday 8am
Paki Rd, As Matuis,
Behind Camille's Gardenia Apt.
near Pau Pau Beach

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

Sherman Consulting, LLC
P.O. Box 520800, San Jose Village, Tinian MP 96952
Tel. (670) 433-2664; Fax (670) 433-4329
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Open Date: Feb 20, 2014
Close Date: Feb 27, 2014
Position: (1) Bookkeeper
Salary: \$2,333.00 per month
Qualification: College Graduate (5) yrs experience
Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/43-3031.00>
Fax resume to (670) 433-4329 on or before February 27, 2014

WHATZIT? Solution: A change is as good as a rest

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

TINIAN FUEL SERVICES, INC
PO Box 520800, Tinian, MP 96952
Tel. (670) 433-4427 • Fax. (670) 433-4329
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Open Date: Feb 20, 2014
Close Date: Feb 27, 2014
Position: (1) Supervisor
Salary: \$1,250 per month
Qualification: High school graduate or vocational, 5 years experience
Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/41-1011.00>
Position: (1) Office Manager
Salary: \$1,250 per month
Qualification: AA degree/college graduate, 5 years experience
Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/43-1011.00>
Position: (1) Mechanic
Salary: \$5.55 per hour
Qualification: High school graduate or vocational, 5 years experience
Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/49-3052.00>
Position: (1) Custodial Worker
Salary: \$5.55 per hour
Qualification: High school graduate or equivalent, 3 years experience
Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/37-2011.00>
Fax resume to (670) 433-4329 on or before February 27, 2014.

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Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.
Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**
Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**
FEATURES:
■ Fully Furnished
■ Back-up Generator
■ Air-conditioning in all rooms
■ FREE WIFI
■ Laundry Area
■ Nighttime Security
■ Ample Parking
■ 24hr water
Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Job Vacancy Announcement
ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC.
(01) BUILDING MAINTENANCE
■ Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks.
■ Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing, security systems, solar panel maintenance and construction with solectrica inverter experience.
■ Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes a lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and partitions.
■ Maintain and repair various equipments.
■ Prefer skills training in electrical, plumbing and building trades areas.
■ Extensive work experience with hemodialysis, maintenance, plumbing and construction is required.
■ High school graduate or equivalent.
■ Must have a valid driver's license.
HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
(01) HEALTHCARE CLINIC SYSTEM MANAGER
■ A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience.
■ Bachelor's degree or equivalent.
■ Maintains specialized computer programs relating to health care operations (medical billing, patient records, scheduler).
■ Maintain all of companies computer systems including computer hardware, computer software, computer network and advance server skills.
■ Oversees medical billing department utilizing specialize computer software.
■ Oversees administrative areas and designs, develop and maintain a paperless computer system.
■ Building maintenance repair, electronic record and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with medical and Medicaid standards.
(01) CLINIC/YARD MAINTENANCE
■ Preferred skills and experience
■ Building Construction/Renovation experience.
■ Experience solar maintenance pv models
■ Must have a valid CNMI drivers license
■ Must be flexible with time schedule
Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be held on 02/21/2014 at 04:00 pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2901 ext. 124.

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To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad, call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747.

WHATZIT?
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
REST CHANGE
www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

James scores 42, Heat pull away from Mavs, 117-106



DALLAS (AP)—LeBron James drove for an emphatic dunk during a decisive fourth-quarter run and went skipping to the bench after a Dallas timeout.

The Miami star has sure had fun against his old nemesis this season.

James scored a season-high 42 points and the Heat tuned up for a showdown with Oklahoma City by beating the Mavericks 117-106 Tuesday night.

The 10-time All-Star was nearly impossible to stop in the first game after the break, topping his previous season high of 39 points in a win over Dallas in Miami in November.

This victory completed Miami's third straight season sweep of the Mavericks—six consecutive wins—since losing to them in the 2011 NBA Finals, James' first season after his celebrated signing with the Heat.

"He is great and we know he is great," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "He scored a bundle of points on us last time and he was even better tonight."

James scored the first eight points and 10 overall in a 14-0 run that put the Heat up 106-95 after they trailed by one entering the fourth quarter.

Miami came out of the All-Star break by winning for the sixth time in seven games heading into James' duel with Kevin Durant on Thursday night in Oklahoma City. It's the last game of the Heat's second six-game road trip, a season high.

"I'm still tired," said James, who had 22 points in 33 minutes in Sunday's All-Star game. "But when I'm on the court, I've got to try to make things happen."

Dirk Nowitzki had 22 points to lead the Mavericks, who couldn't follow up a win at Indiana, the other top team in the Eastern Conference, in their final game before the break.

The deciding run started when James, who also had nine rebounds and six assists, stole a pass from Shawn Marion in the backcourt and pulled up for a tying 3-pointer.

After hitting another 3 over Marion to put Miami ahead for good, James drove for a dunk following Mario Chalmers' steal of a pass from Devin Harris. James made four of eight from long range after getting warmed up with a couple of dunks in the first quarter.

"When we turned it over, he was gone," Marion said. "After his fourth open-court dunk, the basket started feeling a little bit bigger for him. He just started taking pull-up 3s."

The Mavericks, who are in a tight battle with four teams for the final three playoff spots in the West, went without a field goal for 6 minutes after a four-point play by Vince Carter, who scored 15.

Dallas missed seven shots and had three turnovers while Miami pulled away.

"We played hard the whole night," Carlisle said. "We tried to keep it going and get some traction, but we had some untimely struggles. Let's put it that way."

Chris Bosh scored 22 for Miami and Dwyane Wade had 13 after missing the final two games before the break with a foot problem. Chris Andersen scored a season-high 18, including his second 3-pointer of the



Miami Heat forward LeBron James celebrates a teammate's 3-pointer in the final minute of an NBA basketball game against the Dallas Mavericks on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2014, in Dallas. AP

season for Miami's final points.

Chalmers had 10 points and nine assists for the Heat.

"When Bird is playing like that, we are so much more of a dynamic team," Wade said of Andersen. "When 'Bron is driving, he can see over the defense and he can find Bird for a lot of those lobs."

James scored 19 points in an entertaining first half that included an alley-oop dunk on a pass from near midcourt by Wade, a breakaway slam and the buzz of anticipation for another alley-oop that instead was a simple layup from Chalmers when Monta Ellis, the lone defender, chose to guard James.

Early on, the Mavericks looked primed for the only visit of the season from the two-time defending champions.

Nowitzki was on pace for a triple-double in the first half with nine points, seven rebounds and five assists, and Harris found Brandan Wright with a fancy pass for a running dunk that was thrown straight down, barely making a ripple in the net.

Nowitzki finished with nine rebounds and seven assists.

Spurs 113, Clippers 103

In Los Angeles, Patty Mills scored 16 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter, Tim Duncan had 19 points and 13 rebounds during a foul-plagued 38 minutes, and San Antonio charged out of the All-Star break with a victory over Los Angeles.

The Spurs played without six-time All-Star Tony Parker, whom coach Gregg Popovich said would be sidelined "for the foreseeable future" because of numerous aches and pains—including a bruised shin, a groin strain and lower back spasms.

The veteran point guard, who played 11 minutes in Sunday's All-Star game, is the Spurs' leading scorer and their only player averaging at least 30 minutes.

Blake Griffin had 35 points and 12 rebounds, Jamal Crawford scored 25 and DeAndre Jordan grabbed 18 rebounds for the Clippers. J.J. Redick

missed his fifth straight game with a sore right hip.

Backup shooting guard Manu Ginobili returned to the Spurs' lineup and had nine points in 14 minutes after missing eight games because of tightness in his left hamstring.

Pacers 108, Hawks 98

In Indianapolis, Paul George scored 26 points, including four 3-pointers, to lead Indiana over Atlanta.

David West had 17 points and Lance Stephenson added 13 to help the Pacers beat the Hawks for the second time in three meetings this season.

Kyle Korver scored 19 points, shooting 5 for 7 on 3-pointers, and Lou Williams added 18 points for the Hawks, who have lost six straight.

The Pacers went on a 12-2 run in the third quarter on a basket by West, two 3-pointers by George and a dunk and layup by George Hill to give Indiana a 73-54 lead early in the third.

The Pacers put the game away when Ian Mahinmi converted a three-point play and Danny Granger hit a 3 to take a 101-82 lead.

Grizzlies 98, Knicks 93

In Memphis, Tenn., Mike Conley scored 22 points in his return after missing seven games with an ankle injury, Mike Miller added a season-high 19 and Memphis weathered New York's second-half rally.

Miller shot 7 for 11 from the field, including 5 of 7 on 3-pointers, to help Memphis win its third straight. His 3 with 45.9 seconds remaining gave the Grizzlies the lead for good as they scored the game's final seven points.

Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 23 to lead the Knicks, including 14 during their fourth-quarter push. Carmelo Anthony finished with 22 points and 11 rebounds.

Memphis built an 18-point cushion in the first half before the Knicks rallied to take a seven-point lead in the fourth.

Suns 112, Nuggets 107, OT

In Denver, Gerald Green scored a ca-

reer-high 36 points, including eight in overtime, and Phoenix handed Denver its fifth consecutive loss.

Goran Dragic added 21 points and 14 assists for the Suns, who completed a four-game season sweep of the Nuggets, their first in nine years.

Evan Fournier scored 25 to lead the Nuggets, who lost a tough game after being blown out in their previous four defeats. Kenneth Faried added 21 points and 10 rebounds for Denver, which was without leading scorer Ty Lawson (broken left rib) for a third consecutive game.

Cavaliers 114, 76ers 85

In Philadelphia, Tyler Zeller scored a season-high 18 points and grabbed a career-best 15 rebounds, Kyrie Irving added 14 points and Cleveland pushed its winning streak to five games with a blowout of skidding Philadelphia.

Irving, selected MVP of the NBA All-Star game on Sunday with 31 points and 14 assists, played only 23 minutes in this rout.

Dion Waiters had 13 points before leaving with a knee injury in the second quarter. Luol Deng also scored 13 and Tristan Thompson had 12 points and 10 rebounds for the Cavaliers (21-33), on their longest winning streak since an eight-game run in March 2010. That was LeBron James' final season in Cleveland.

The reeling Sixers fell to 15-40 with their ninth loss in a row and eighth straight at home—their longest skid since the 1996-97 season. Philadelphia has dropped 19 of 22 overall.

Raptors 103, Wizards 93

In Washington, Kyle Lowry had 24 points and 10 assists, and Toronto broke open a close game in the third quarter before holding off Washington.

Five Raptors joined Lowry in double figures, including Amir Johnson, who returned after missing two games with a sore right ankle. He scored 14 points.

The Atlantic Division leaders, who have won three straight, also got 14 from DeMar DeRozan and Greivis Vasquez.

John Wall led the Wizards with 22 points and Marcin Gortat added 18 points and 11 rebounds.

Washington has lost three straight and five of six. The Wizards fell to 13-14 at home this season.

Bobcats 108, Pistons 96

In Auburn Hills, Mich., Al Jefferson had 32 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists to lead Charlotte over Detroit.

Kemba Walker scored 22 points and Josh McRoberts added 14 points and 10 rebounds to help the Bobcats extend their lead over the Pistons to 1½ games for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. Jefferson reached 30 points for the sixth time in nine games.

The teams conclude their home-and-home set in Charlotte on Wednesday night.

Andre Drummond, coming off his MVP performance in the Rising Stars game last Friday, had 16 points and 22 rebounds for Detroit. But that wasn't enough to overcome a terrible shooting performance by his teammates. Interim coach John Loyer dropped to 1-2 since replacing Maurice Cheeks last week.

Bucks 104, Magic 100

In Milwaukee, Brandon Knight overcame a bizarre foot injury, scoring 18 points and making two free throws with 5.5 seconds left to seal Milwaukee's victory over Orlando in a game between two of the NBA's worst teams.

Orlando fell to 3-24 on the road. Despite snapping a four-game losing streak, the Bucks have lost 19 of 22 overall.

Knight played 34 minutes despite slicing his foot open on a baseboard while stepping out of his bathroom shower Tuesday afternoon. He missed 10 of 13 shots from the field but hit all 12 of his free throws.

Before the game, Knight said he was unsure whether he could play. He started anyway.

Arron Afflalo scored 21 points and Nikola Vucevic added 19 for Orlando.

Bucks rookie Nate Wolters hit a 3-pointer with 29 seconds to go to give Milwaukee a 99-97 lead.

Wise wins on halfpipe for another American gold



KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia (AP)—David Wise considers himself a dad and husband first, a freestyle skier second.

That might be why he also became an Olympic champion.

Soaring through sloppy snow and sleet, Wise won the first gold medal in the young sport of halfpipe skiing Tuesday, outclassing a field in Sochi that had trouble with the slow, water-logged conditions.

Sightlines were less than perfect on the first true soaker of a night at the action-sports venue, but not so bad that Wise couldn't look down from the top and see his wife, Lexi, and the rest of his family members cheering at the base of the halfpipe.

Many of them were holding big pop-out pictures of his 2-year-old daughter, Nayeli, stapled to wooden sticks.

"To see that face looking back up at me was cool," Wise said.

After placing a heart-shaped rock Lexi gave him into one pocket, the 23-year-old from Reno, Nev., dropped into the halfpipe and scored a 92—a mark that held up to beat Canada's Mike Riddle by 1.4 points.

Kevin Rolland of France took bronze.

That podium pretty much went to form, a fact not lost on Wise or any of the others, who have watched expected results in other action sports at these games get shuffled - partly because of conditions and maybe because of pressure. Shaun White never got comfortable with the tough halfpipe a week ago and finished fourth. Kelly Clark struggled and ended up with bronze, not gold.

"I've been watching a lot of favorites lose this Olympics ... seeing how much pressure it can be and how you have to

perform, regardless of the conditions or how you're feeling that day," Wise said. "It's kind of sobering, to say the least."

He had a couple new tricks he wanted to bust out for the Olympics, but because of the conditions, those will have to wait.

Instead, he went with his most dependable jumps: 2 1/2 spins; two flips with 3 1/2 spins; back-to-back 720-degree spins; then another two-flip, 1260-degree move. Some went 14-15 feet above the halfpipe. Most had fancy grabs of the skis that the judges love. All had rock-solid landings that win gold medals.

"Dave is, right now, on top of the sport," said his 17-year-old American teammate, Aaron Blunck. "He's the best. He's proven it multiple times. He comes out in any condition and has amazing fun. He's the dad out of the group. So, no matter what he does, we're proud of him"

Wise is the winner of three straight Winter X Games titles, which, until now, were the biggest prizes in his trophy case.

All these major victories have come since he got married and became a dad.

He's a family man—the regular dude in a counter-culture sport—and he's sure he wouldn't be this good if it were different.

"I can go and ski my heart



Gold medalist David Wise of the United States, center, celebrates with silver medalist Mike Riddle of Canada, left, and bronze medalist Kevin Rolland of France, after the men's ski halfpipe final at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park, at the 2014 Winter Olympics, Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2014, in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia.

out, but that doesn't necessarily define who I am," he said. "Being a good husband and father is more important. I can have passion with both things and it provides balance."

Riddle's silver continued a sparkling stretch of freestyle

skiing for Canada. Including the 1-2 moguls finish by the Dufour-Lapointe sisters, a 1-2 finish in men's moguls and some other strong results, the Canadians have won seven medals in the action sports, three of them gold.

This one means a little more, given that it came in the sport the late Sarah Burke of Canada pushed hardest to include in the Olympics. Burke was the freestyle star who died two years ago after a training accident in the halfpipe.

to a great, big family.

"You represent everyone who believed in you along the way—teachers, trainers, coaches, sponsors," he said. "Everyone who thought you had a chance of being great at something is in that halfpipe with you."

Rangers' Yu Darvish jokes about Tanaka contract



S U R - P R I S E , A R I Z . (AP)—If

Yu Darvish is feeling any pressure after leading the majors in strikeouts last season, it isn't showing.

The Texas Rangers ace was even in a joking mood Tuesday at spring training. Darvish wisecracked that the New York Yankees might have paid too much for fellow Japanese right-hander Masahiro Tanaka by giving him a seven-year, \$155 million contract on top of a \$20 million posting fee to the Rakuten Golden Eagles.

The deal made Darvish No. 2 when it comes to Japanese players in the majors: He has a six-year, \$56 million deal signed before the 2012 season after the Rangers paid \$51.7 million to Hokkaido for the right to negotiate with him.

"I don't know the details of the posting system, but I think

the Yankees gave him a little bit too much," Darvish said with a chuckle through his interpreter during his first spring training session with reporters. Even before the session was done, the remark was all over social media and the Rangers released a statement to make sure everyone knew Darvish was kidding.

"I am sorry if anyone took my comment seriously about Masahiro Tanaka at the press conference," Darvish said in the statement. "I assumed by the reaction in the room that everyone knew I was joking."

The 27-year-old Darvish could opt out of his contract after five years if he wins a Cy Young Award and potentially get a contract exceeding that of Tanaka. He came close last year, finishing second to Max Scherzer in the balloting after leading the majors with 277 strikeouts—the most since Randy Johnson struck out 290 in 2004 with Arizona.

Darvish, who manager Ron Washington has already named the opening day starter, was 13-9 with a 2.83 ERA in 32 starts last season.

"If we score him runs, he might win 35 games and he's only going to get 32 starts," Washington said.

Darvish lost four 1-0 decisions, the first pitcher to do that in a season since Orel Hershiser with the 1989 Dodgers.

"Never once did he ever make any whimpers of, 'Boy it sure would be nice to get some runs,' never once," pitching coach Mike Maddux said. "That's the kind of teammate he is. He's going to go out and do the best he can and wants everyone else to the best they can."

The Rangers averaged 3.08 runs per game in Darvish's final 23 starts.

"The game is something you can't control, so you can't be pessimistic or optimistic," Darvish said. "The main thing is to

keep yourself healthy. If you're healthy enough, I think numbers are going to follow. The outcome is something that is a result of having a healthy season. I can't really control what goes on in a game situation."

Darvish went on the 15-day disabled list last July with a right shoulder strain and was bothered by back nerve irritation in September. Darvish said he shied away from heavy lifting during the offseason to help the back. His lack of fastball command, which gets his pitch count up early, has been a concern.

"You'll probably see during the course of the season how much I have improved," Darvish said. "I'm more relaxed and I can do many things at my own pace and I'm aware of what's going on and people know me better than in the past."

An improved Darvish could equate to a blockbuster contract. No joke.

A-Rod jerseys absent from Steinbrenner Field store

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Alex Rodriguez's jerseys are nowhere to be found at Steinbrenner Field, just like the suspended third baseman.

The Legends Room store at the New York Yankees' spring training home does not have any of Rodriguez's No. 13 jerseys on sale as the team prepares for its exhibition opener next week.

Eight players were represented with white, pin-striped jerseys hanging neatly on rods attached to a wall and available for \$139.95 apiece Tuesday. They had the names and numbers of Babe Ruth (3), Mickey Mantle (7), Derek Jeter (2), Ichiro Suzuki (31), Brian McCann (34), Jacoby Ellsbury (22), Car-

los Beltran (36) and Masahiro Tanaka (19).

The Yankees said the store manager decides on which jerseys he thinks will be the best sellers, and they said Rodriguez's model had not been available there for several years.

Rodriguez, a three-time AL MVP and baseball's highest-paid player, was suspended for 211 games on Aug. 5 for violations of baseball's drug agreement and labor contract. An arbitrator last month cut the penalty to the 2014 season and postseason.

His spring training locker adjacent to the back door of the clubhouse has been left vacant, storing only white hangers.

San Antonio thwarts Natural Mystic

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

San Antonio withstood Natural Mystic's late rally for a 79-74 win in the second game in the 2014 MDX Amateur Radio Club Basketball League last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Bryle Alegre and Jack Aranda hit game-saving baskets to tow San Antonio to its second victory in as many games and foil Natural Mystic's bid to enter the win column. Alegre and Aranda scored San Antonio's last two field goals.



The San Antonio forward's undergoal stab gave the team more breathing room, 77-74, after Natural Mystic moved within 1, 74-75, going into the last 1:05 of the fourth quarter. San Antonio once held an 8-point lead, 75-67, 2:37 left in the game before Natural Mystic launched a quick 7-0 run

capped by Alex Standish's basket in the paint against a throng of defenders. Sensing trouble, San Antonio sued for time and when the game resumed, it went to its money man Alegre, who canned a shot down low against two Natural Mystic defenders. Natural Mystic quickly went for

an inbound after Alegre's field goal and Dan Barcinas pulled up for a triple from the left key, but missed. San Antonio's Emerson FERIA took the long rebound and threw an outlet to Jack Aranda, who went for a fastbreak play against Standish. The San Antonio guard rammed into the defense of Standish, but kept his balance and hit a banked shot to seal the deal, less than 20 seconds left in the game.

22 points in the third frame. Eight other Docomo players hit the board in the game-deciding third canto, while only Martin Moreno scored more than one field goal for the stunned Armatech. Moreno had 6 points in that quarter and got a little help from only two teammates. With comfortable 74-49 lead, going into the fourth period, Docomo was content on trading baskets with Armatech en route to its 22-point winning margin.

PIC to host Hafa Adai 5KM in April

Pacific Islands Club will be holding a charity 5K run on April for the benefit of the Saipan Salvation Army.

Dubbed the Hafa Adai 5KM, the race starts bright and early at 7:30am with the start and finish line at PIC Saipan with the halfway turnaround at the former Blockbuster Video store in Chalan Kanoa, which is across the Mt. Carmel Cathedral.

"Once again, PIC Saipan is kicking off Spring with yet another first for the island! We brought you the 100KM Bike Race, we host the Annual Point Break competition each year as well as the Laser Tag Tournament and of course our end-of-summer Annual Palooza Fundraising party. We were the first to host an island-wide Dodge-

ball tournament so we figured let's host another first," said race director Glenn Policare.

He said the Hafa Adai 5KM will be different from other running events on island because of the organizers' use of "holi powder."

"As the flame trees of Saipan begin to bloom, hundreds of pounds of colored 'holi powder' are on their way to Saipan as we speak. The colors of the rainbow will be unleashed onto Beach Road as hundreds of runners weave their way through the various coloring stations we will have set up along the course."

Policare, however, wants to make it clear that the Hafa Adai 5KM is in no way affiliated with The Color Run.

"This will not be nor is in any way affiliated with the for-profit organization known as The Color Run. This is the Hafa Adai 5KM. While the concept is quite similar, (start the race in a white T-shirt and end up looking like a bag of Skittle!), the race will be a charity fundraising event. Proceeds from the Hafa Adai 5KM will go to benefit the Saipan Salvation Army."

The race will feature four different coloring stations along the Beach Road route. Participants are encouraged to wear white attire so that the full effect of the coloring stations can be seen post-race. Volunteers will be celebrating each runner's arrival by greeting him or her with "holi powder." This is biodegradable mixture

of cornstarch and food coloring. PIC is inviting the entire community to participate. The race fee is just \$10 and the first 500 entries will receive a commemorative event T-shirt. For this one-of-a-kind event, PIC Saipan is expecting 1,000 runners.

Post-race, PIC will be raffling more than \$5,000 worth of prizes, which include PIC Waterpark Passes, Magellan Lunches and Brunches, along with Room Stays and Annual Memberships to PIC Saipan.

For more information on the Hafa Adai 5KM, email Policare at glenn.policare@picsaipan.com or PIC Saipan Operations and Events manager Dennis Tababa dennis.tababa@picsaipan.com. (Saipan Tribune)

PROS

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thing or two.

"As long as my teammate is open to communication and willing to learn, we will do good," Salzman said.

As for their exhibition game against Tanaka and Murakami tomorrow, Salzman and Jones said they are taking the game seriously and do not want to disappoint the locals fans.

"They (Japanese) have a

reputation for winning, but we want to win, too, that's why we are here and trying to get the feel of the court," said Salzman, who believed her seven-year partnership with Jones will be a big factor in their exhibition game against the Japanese pair.

Silberstein is also concerned with his and Carlussi's exhibition match with Nakaya and Murakami since Friday's game will be the former's first time to show his wares on Saipan.

"The first order of business

is to get the job done in the exhibition game. We have to be prepared as a team first before worrying about the pro-am competition," said Silberstein, who loves to set and would be a perfect fit for a player who can hit the ball down.

"I am a little smaller and will need a partner with good offense. I have good ball control, so it will be great to have someone who can side out and put the ball down," the 5'8" pro said. "I wish I could still play with Jeff,

but I can't because we will be raffled off and be paired with the amateurs."

Carlucci said Saipan has a deep pool of quality players and it will be hard to choose a partner, if given a chance.

"It will be a tough choice, as I know a lot of good players here. There are a lot of people I would love to play with. Though I will not be able to choose from the pool, it gives me a bit of advantage knowing these players and their strengths and weakness,

which I and my eventual partner could exploit come game time," said Carlucci, who debuted in the Marianas Cup with Chris Nelson four or five years ago before playing with Misaki Cramer in 2012.

Meanwhile, Carlucci and the seven other pros conducted a two-hour clinic at Fiesta yesterday with over 100 joining the afternoon session, according to Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association's Amie McRoberts.

JETS

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ings with their 1-5 slate, while the Fielders complete the six-team field with their 2-4 card.

Down at 4-5, after three and a half innings, the Jets zoomed past the Red Sox at the bottom of the fourth with a seven-run push. The Jets got two earned runs, one stolen base and two runs each off passed balls and the Red Sox's errors at shortstop.

The Red Sox tried to regain the lead, but could not produce enough runs, as they had only four in the last three innings.

The defending champions missed a chance to extend the game when their first three batters were booted out at the top of the last inning. Chabo Leon Guerrero advanced to first off an error and moved to third off a wild pitch, but was eventually beaten to third base, while the Red Sox's next two batters flied out to right and centerfield.

Fielders 16, Comets 7

Don Ada hit a two-run homer in the first inning to fuel the Fielders offense and power his team to victory over the Comets.

The Fielders got another run at the top of the first and went on to score in five of the remaining six innings to down the Comets. The Comets had shutouts in the first two innings before making two runs apiece in the next two, but went on silent mode anew in the fifth and sixth, making their three runs in the last inning useless.

Besides his homer in the opening inning, Ada gained three more runs and was 4-for-5 at the plate.

Enforcers 3, Falcons 2

In a low-scoring game, the JPO

Enforcers nipped the Falcons.

Nathan Nogis made the go-ahead run, while Virgil Secharmidal preserved the lead after earning three straight strikeouts at the bottom of the last inning.

Nogis reached home off a fielding error from Falcons shortstop Benen Iguel at the top of the sixth inning with two outs and a runner on first. The Enforcers then failed to gain more cushion as Jordan Kosam was called for a 6-3 putout play.

At the bottom of the sixth, the Falcons' Jay Kalen were two bases away from the equalizer with one out, but the Enforc-

ers made a big defensive stop, nailing a double play. Secharmidal struck out Jeremy Ngiraked, while Enforcers catcher Shakobe Rangamar threw to third baseman Ethan Babauta, who tagged out Kalen.

Despite the missed opportunity, the Falcons stayed in the game after the Enforcers did not score at the top of the seventh. However, the Falcons suffered the same fate at the bottom of the inning as Secharmidal was unhittable, capping a complete game for the Enforcers with three early strikeouts.

CLOSE

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several minutes of the second period before Peter Loken finally scored off a penalty kick in the 76th minute.

The victory was Inter Godfather's first this season, as it settled for a 1-1 draw against Paire during the league opener. MP United played its first game in the spring season.

Tan Holdings FC competed in

its second game this season and notched back-to-back wins after outclassing the debuting Korean Football Association on Saipan.

Tan Holdings FC, which topped Kanoa FC in its first game, 5-2, drew twin goals from Ruselle Zapanta and one each from Jerishwin Angeles and Jonathan Takano to beat KFAS.

Angeles broke the ice with his goal in the ninth minute, but KFAS evened out the count

seven minutes later, courtesy of Jun Woo Lee's goal. The game remained in a deadlock after the first 45 minutes of play.

KFAS then took the lead right into the first minute of the second half with Brian Lee hitting his target, but Tan Holdings FC quickly tied the match with Takano recording his first goal in the league at the 47th minute.

Tan Holdings and KFAS breathed in each other's neck and the next 10 minutes and

change before Zapanta hit the go-ahead goal in the 60th and followed it up with the insurance goal 17 minutes later.

Meanwhile, in the all-Division 2 game last Sunday, fall champion Thundercats topped the CNMI Women's National Team, 3-1.

Three different players contributed in the Thundercats' victory, their second this season. Thomas Lee put the Thundercats in the board in the first half,

while Don Cabrera and Makano Gramlich added one goal apiece in the second. The Women's National Team, which came from a 2-0 victory over Sun Palace in Week 2, failed to make it two in a row, as only Jeralyn Castillo scored for the squad, 11 minutes before the game ended.

The win over the CNMI Women's National Team allowed the Thundercats to bounce back from a 2-3 loss to Shirley's FC last Feb. 12.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
NBA STANDINGS				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	29	24	.547	—
Brooklyn	24	27	.471	4
New York	20	33	.377	9
Boston	19	35	.352	10½
Philadelphia	15	40	.273	15
Southeast Division				
Miami	38	14	.731	—
Atlanta	25	27	.481	13
Washington	25	28	.472	13½
Charlotte	24	30	.444	15
Orlando	16	39	.291	23½
Central Division				
Indiana	41	12	.774	—
Chicago	27	25	.519	13½
Detroit	22	31	.415	19
Cleveland	21	33	.389	20½
Milwaukee	10	43	.189	31
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
San Antonio	39	15	.722	—
Houston	36	17	.679	2½
Dallas	32	23	.582	7½
Memphis	30	23	.566	8½
New Orleans	23	29	.442	15
Northwest Division				
Oklahoma City	43	12	.782	—
Portland	36	17	.679	6
Minnesota	25	28	.472	17
Denver	24	28	.462	17½
Utah	19	33	.365	22½
Pacific Division				
L.A. Clippers	37	19	.661	—
Phoenix	31	21	.596	4
Golden State	31	22	.585	4½
L.A. Lakers	18	35	.340	17½
Sacramento	18	35	.340	17½
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				

2014 White Coconut Classic Part 2

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Seiya Eda serves during his and Rob Schorr's mixed-up doubles game against Tim Goodwin and Malika Miyawaki in the 2014 White Coconut Classic Tennis Tournaments last Monday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.



Robbie Schorr receives a shot at the baseline.



Malika Miyawaki makes a return.



Joshua Abragan steps back for a return during his and Luke Beling's title game against Steven Goodwin and Peter Loken.



Steven Goodwin gets ready to hit a low ball, while teammate Peter Loken stands by near the net.



Father Ryan Jimenez steps forward for a return to Gary Ramsey.



Thea Minor bends her knees for a return to Jake Lee.



A.J. Hudkins stretches for a shot.



Gang Min Kim moves forward for a shot.



Gary Ramsey hits a backhand return.



**James scores 42,
Heat pull away from
Mavs, 117-106**
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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Wise wins on
halfpipe for another
American gold**
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28 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pros all set for Marianas Cup



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Jeff Carlucci, Jacklyne Jones, Kauai Salzman, and Evan Silberstein pose for a photo before conducting a clinic yesterday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan sandcourt.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Eight visiting beach volleyball pros are in town, as the Marianas Cup Beach Volleyball Festival returns to Saipan this weekend at the Fiesta Resort & Spa sandcourts.

The group of pros is composed of returnees Jacklyne Jones and Jeff Carlucci of the U.S. and Japan's Megumi Murakami, Shinako Tanaka, and Yasuo Nakaya, and newcomers Kauai Salzman, Evan Silberstein, and Hotoshi Murakami.

"It's nice play again in the Marianas Cup and have fun with amateur players," said Jones, who joined last year's tournament in Guam and finished in the Top 5.

"This year, I don't know how

I am going to finish in the tournament, as it will depend on who my partner will be. But, whoever I am paired with, I will make sure we will have a lot of fun and help her get better. I just hope a lot of girls will show up and compete this weekend," Jones added.

Jones' pro partner, Salzman, shared the former's sentiments on enjoying every game with an amateur teammate and teaching her a

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Close games in Week 2 of M-League



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Thundercats FC player sees an opening on the CNMI Women's National Team's defense during the second half of their game in Division 2 of the M-League last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Three of the four winning teams in Week 2 of the spring season of the 2014 M-League labored for victories last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

In the curtain raiser, Shirley's FC pulled off a 3-2 triumph over Sun Palace in a Division 1 match, thwarting the latter's rally in the second half.

The second frame started with Shirley's ahead at 2-0, off Roding Domingo's goal in the 39th minute and Fradel Sedillo's shot one minute before

the first half wrapped up. Jack Phan made it a 3-0 advantage for Shirley's FC when he lit up the scoreboard in the 55th. However, Sun Palace mounted a comeback past the halfway mark of the second half, as Hoin Ryu and Qing Long Yu scored before Shirley's FC made some defensive stops to keep the lead and the win.

In a Division 1 game, Inter Godfather's defense shut out MP United and lifted the former to a 1-0 victory.

Both teams failed to find the back of the net in the first half and they continued their search for the elusive goal in the first

See CLOSE on Page 26

Jets back on track, beat Red Sox



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Jets runner stomps his feet on the dish after beating Red Sox defenders to second base during the bottom of the fourth inning of their game in the Junior League last Monday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Jets snapped a two-game losing skid after downing the Red Sox, 12-9, in the Junior League division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball last Monday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The victory also put the Jets in a three-way tie for second place with the Comets and Falcons. The three squads hold similar 3-3 records, three wins behind the undefeated JPO Enforcers (6-0). The Red Sox remained at the bottom of the team stand-

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